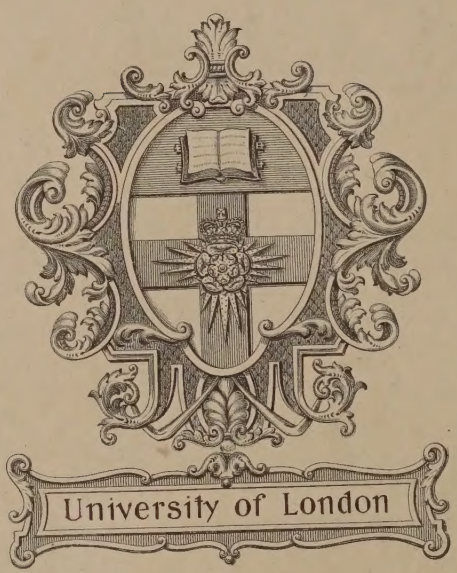
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NORTH AMERICA. No. 2. (1867.)

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

BRITISH AND AMERICAN CLAIMS

ARISING OUT OF THE LATE

CIVIL WAR

IN

THE UNITED STATES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1867.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Further Correspondence respecting British and American Claims arising out of the late Civil War in the United States.

No. 1.

Lord Stanley to Sir F. Wright Bruce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 10, 1867.*

THE Minister of the United States called upon me to-day, and communicated to me a despatch, of which, however, he was not authorized to give me a copy, from Mr. Seward, dated the 12th of August, in reply to my despatch to you of the 24th of May, respecting the mutual claims of the two countries on each other arising out of the late civil war.

By this despatch Mr. Adams is authorized to assure me that Mr. Seward did not understand my previous offer of arbitration to apply only to claims arising out of the depredations of the "Alabama," to the exclusion of those arising out of the depredations of vessels of the like character, but, on the contrary, understood the offer to apply equally to all such claims.

The President, Mr. Seward says, considers the terms of the offer of the British Government to go to arbitration upon the question whether, in the matters connected with all those vessels out of whose depredations the claims of American citizens have arisen, the course pursued by the British Government and those who acted upon its authority, was such as would involve a moral responsibility to make good, either in whole or in part, the losses of American citizens, to be at once comprehensive and sufficiently precise to include all the claims of American citizens for depredations on their commerce during the late rebellion, which have been the subject of complaint on the part of the Government of the United States.

But Mr. Seward goes on to say that the Government of the United States would deem itself at liberty to insist before the arbiter that the actual proceedings and relations of the British Government, its officers, agents, and subjects, towards the United States in regard to the rebellion and the rebels, as they occurred during that rebellion, are among the matters which are connected with the vessels whose depredations are complained of; just as in the case of general claims, alluded to in my despatch, the actual proceedings and relations of Her Majesty's Government, its officers, agents, and subjects, in regard to the United States in regard to the rebellion and the rebels, are necessarily connected with the transactions out of which those general claims arose.

Mr. Seward further observes that my plan seems to be to constitute two descriptions of tribunals: one an arbiter to determine the question of the moral responsibility of the British Government in regard to the vessels of the "Alabama" class; and the other a Mixed Commission to adjudicate the so-called general claims of both sides; and a contingent reference to the same or other Mixed Commissions to ascertain and determine the amount of damages for indemnity to be awarded in the cases examined by the first tribunal in the event of a decision of moral responsibility in favour of the United States. But Mr. Seward says that the Government of the United States do not consider any distinction as to principle between the two tribunals to be necessary, and that in every case they agree only to unrestricted arbitration. It may be convenient, indeed, that the claims should be distributed between the two tribunals, both of which, however, the Government of the United States consider should proceed upon the same principle, and be clothed with the same powers.

Mr. Seward concludes his despatch by saying that the President will be gratified if the

explanations contained in it should conduce to the removal of the difficulties which have heretofore prevented the two Governments from coming to an amicable and friendly understanding and arrangement.

I reserve for a future occasion any observations that I may have to offer on Mr. Seward's despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Ford.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 16, 1867.

IN my despatch to Sir F. Bruce of the 10th September I confined myself to a mere statement of the substance of a despatch from Mr. Seward which Mr. Adams had communicated to me in reply to my despatch of the 24th of May respecting the claims arising on either side out of the events of the late civil war in the United States.

Her Majesty's Government having, since the date of my despatch, fully considered the terms of Mr. Seward's despatch, I will no longer delay acquainting you, for communication to that Minister, with the impression which it has made upon them.

Her Majesty's Government observe that the President of the United States considers the terms used in my despatch, with reference to the so-called "Alabama" claims, to be at once comprehensive and sufficiently precise to include all the claims of American citizens for depredations upon their commerce during the late rebellion, which have been the subject of complaint upon the part of the Government of the United States; those terms being, to quote the precise words of my despatch of the 24th of May, applicable to this class of claims, and which, in substance, repeats those used by me in my despatch of the 9th of March, that the question on which Great Britain was ready to go to arbitration was, "whether in the matters connected with the vessels out of whose depredations the claims of American citizens have arisen, the course pursued by the British Government and by those who acted upon its authority was such as would 'involve a moral responsibility on the part of the British Government to make good, either in whole or in part, the losses of American citizens."

In the same and in previous despatches it will be found that, whilst agreeing to this limited reference as regards the so-called "Alabama" claims, I have repeatedly stated that Her Majesty's Government could not consent to refer to a foreign Power to determine whether the policy of Her Majesty's Government in recognizing the Confederate States as belligerents was or was not suitable to the circumstances of the time when the negotiation took place. After referring, however, to the terms of my despatch of the 24th of May, Mr. Seward goes on to say that, in the view taken by the United States' Government, that Government would deem itself at liberty to insist before the arbiter that the actual proceedings and relations of the British Government, its officers, agents, and subjects, towards the United States in regard to the rebellion and the rebels as they occurred during that rebellion, are among the matters which are connected with the vessels whose depredations are complained of; just as, in the case of the general claims alluded to by me, the actual proceedings and relations of Her Majesty's Government, its officers, agents, and subjects in regard to the United States, in regard to the rebellion and the rebels, are necessarily connected with the transactions out of which those general claims arise.

The language thus used by Mr. Seward appears to Her Majesty's Government to be open to the construction that it is the desire of the United States' Government that any tribunal to be agreed upon in dealing either with the so-called "Alabama" claims or with the "general claims" might enter into the question whether the act of policy of Her Majesty's Government in recognizing the Confederate States as a belligerent Power was or was not suitable to the circumstances of the time when the recognition was made; a construction which, after the distinct and repeated avowal of Her Majesty's Government that they could not consent to a reference of such a question, Her Majesty's Government can hardly suppose that it was intended by Mr. Seward that the passage in his despatch should bear.

But to prevent any misapprehension on this subject, Her Majesty's Government think it necessary distinctly to say, both as regards the so-called "Alabama" claims brought forward by citizens of the United States and as regards the general claims, that they cannot depart, directly or indirectly, from their refusal to "refer to a foreign Power to determine whether the policy of recognizing the Confederate States as a belligerent

Power was or was not suitable to the circumstances of the time when the negotiation was made."

As regards the so-called "Alabama" claims, the only point which Her Majesty's Government can consent to refer to the decision of an arbiter is the question of the moral responsibility of Her Majesty's Government, on the assumption that an actual state of war existed between the Government of the United States and the Confederate States; and on that assumption it would be for the arbiter to determine whether there had been any such failure on the part of the British Government as a neutral in the observance, legally or morally, of any duties or relations towards the Government of the United States as could be deemed to involve a moral responsibility on the part of the British Government to make good losses of American citizens caused by the "Alabama" and other vessels of the same class.

As regards the general claims, the question of moral responsibility on the part of Her Majesty's Government does not, and cannot, come into dispute at all.

Mr. Seward rightly supposes that Her Majesty's Government contemplated two tribunals for the adjudication, one of the "Alabama" claims, the other of the general claims; the one being, in the first instance, at all events, the tribunal of an arbiter, who would be called upon to pronounce on the principles of the moral responsibility of the British Government, and on the nature of whose decision would depend the question of the appointment of a Mixed Commission for the examination in detail of the several claims of citizens of the United States to which that decision applied, namely, those arising out of the depredations of the "Alabama" and other similar vessels, and the adjudication of the sums payable in each case; the other, in its commencement and to its close, a purely Mixed Commission for the examination of the general claims of the subjects and citizens of both countries arising out of the war, and the adjudication of the sums payable by either country in each case.

The distinction between the two classes of claims is clear: the one may never come before a Mixed Commission, and therefore may not require the assistance of an arbiter to decide differences of detail arising between the Commissioners; the other, though originally brought before a Mixed Commission, may possibly require the intervention of an arbiter in case of a difference of opinion among the members of the Commission which could not be otherwise reconciled, and for which case provision would be made in the ordinary way in the Convention for the Settlement of the Mixed Claims, by the insertion of Articles in regard to the selection of an arbiter.

The functions of such an arbiter, as well as of an arbiter for a like purpose in the other Mixed Commission, for which provision would have to be made to meet the contingency of the so-called "Alabama" claims coming eventually under the cognizance of a Mixed Commission, would have nothing in common with the functions of the arbiter, to whom the question of principle involved in the last-mentioned class of claims would be referred.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but apprehend that, if Mr. Seward really requires unrestricted arbitration as applicable to both classes of claims, and that the tribunal in both classes of cases should proceed upon the same principles and be clothed with the same powers, he has not fully considered the wide and inevitable distinction which exists between the classes; and in directing you to submit to the consideration of Mr. Seward the explanations and observations contained in this despatch, I have to instruct you to express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of the United States will, on further reflection, accept without hesitation the proposal made in my despatches to Sir F. Bruce of the 9th of March and of the 24th of May, both of this year, namely, "limited reference to arbitration in regard to the so-called 'Alabama' claims," and "adjudication by means of a Mixed Commission of general claims."

You will furnish Mr. Seward with a copy of this despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

NORTH AMERICA. No. 2. (1867.)

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE respecting British and American Claims arising out of the late Civil War in the United States.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty, 1867.

[*Price* 1*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

NORTH AMERICA. No. 1. (1868.)

DESPATCH

FROM

MR. SEWARD TO MR. ADAMS,

RESPECTING

BRITISH AND AMERICAN CLAIMS

ARISING OUT OF THE LATE

CIVIL WAR IN THE UNITED STATES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Despatch from Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams respecting British and American Claims arising out of the late Civil War in the United States.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by Mr. Adams, December* 24.)

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, November* 29, 1867.

MR. FORD has given me a copy of a letter which Lord Stanley wrote to him on the 16th of November instant, concerning the question of arbitration upon the so-called "Alabama" claims. I have submitted Lord Stanley's remarks to the President, and have received his directions thereupon.

The Government of the United States adheres to the views concerning the proposed arbitration which I have heretofore had occasion to make known, through your Legation, to Lord Stanley. We are now distinctly informed by Lord Stanley's letter that the limited reference of the so-called "Alabama" claims which Lord Stanley proposes is tendered upon the condition that the United States shall waive before the arbitrator the position they have constantly maintained from the beginning, namely, that the Queen's Proclamation of 1861, which accorded belligerent rights to insurgents against the authority of the United States, was not justified on any grounds, either of necessity or moral right, and, therefore, was an act of wrongful intervention, a departure from the obligation of existing Treaties, and without the sanction of the law of nations. The condition being inadmissible, the proposed limited reference is therefore declined.

I am, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

NORTH AMERICA.
No. 1. (1868.)

DESPATCH from Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams respecting British and American Claims arising out of the late Civil War in the United States.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* ½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

NORTH AMERICA. No. 2. (1868.)

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

THE UNITED STATES

RESPECTING THE

IMPRISONMENT

OF

MESSRS. WARREN AND COSTELLO.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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Correspondence with the United States respecting the Imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello.

No. 1.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Thornton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 16, 1868.

THE United States' Chargé d'Affaires has inquired of me, by direction of Mr. Seward, whether Her Majesty's Government were prepared at once to enter into a Treaty with the United States on the subject of naturalisation.

I reminded Mr. Moran, in reply, of the statements which some weeks ago I made in the House of Commons, and which were received, as I believed, with general approval, that Her Majesty's Government were prepared to entertain in principle the question of a Naturalisation Treaty, and no longer held to the doctrine of indefeasible allegiance.

But, I observed to Mr. Moran, that with every good disposition on their part to contribute to setting at rest a question which, as it now stood, was calculated to interfere with the maintenance of good understanding between this country and the United States, Her Majesty's Government found it was inexpedient, not to say impossible, to proceed hastily in a matter which involved points of great legal difficulty, and might affect the interests not only of persons now in being, but of persons still unborn. It was necessary, therefore, to consider how British law bore on the question, and the similarity between the laws of the two countries need scarcely be insisted upon in support of the statement that there are many legal points to be considered and determined before either a Treaty can be concluded, or legislation attempted, by this country.

Her Majesty's Government, I said, have lost no time in seeking to elucidate the questions to be considered. A Royal Commission, composed of very eminent persons, had been appointed, and were now engaged in investigating those questions; it was impossible to say how long the inquiry would take, but even apart from the question of the inexpediency of anticipating the report of the Commissioners, I thought it right to remark that, in the actual state of public affairs in Parliament, and considering the general anxiety felt to restrict legislation to what was absolutely required with a view to an early dissolution, it would be impracticable, even if the Report of the Commission had been agreed upon and published, to introduce into the House of Commons, with any chance of its immediately becoming law, a Bill for giving effect to the recommendations of that Report. It could not be expected to pass without much discussion, and for this there was not now time.

It seemed to me, therefore, inevitable that legislation on the subject must be deferred till the meeting of the new Parliament, and, as the Treaty must be made dependent on such legislation, it was useless to conclude it at once.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 2.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Moran.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Mr. Moran, July 9.)

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, June* 22, 1868.

THE correspondence recorded in your Legation is full of remonstrances and expostulations which, by the President's direction, I have addressed to Her Majesty's Government against the imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello.

The reasons have been fully and frequently assigned why the judicial severity maintained by the British Government in these cases has tended to embarrass the friendly relations between the two countries, and to protract the political excitement which has so

greatly disturbed the peace of the British realm and of the British provinces adjacent to the United States.

On many occasions I have had the honour to urge upon the British Government the necessity of a modification of the laws of the British realm in the case of subjects of Great Britain who have become citizens of the United States under our naturalization laws.

By the President's direction, also, I have with much urgency invited the British Government to enter into an equal Treaty with the United States on that subject, as a proceeding which is essential for the removal of discontents, which, if suffered to continue, might involve the two nations in reprisals or war. Hitherto these proceedings have been unfruitful, although we have many friendly assurances of a favourable disposition on the part of the British Government.

In connection with this matter, the President now makes it my duty to give you a copy of a Resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, which was passed on the 15th of June, "requesting the President to take such measures as shall appear proper to secure the release from imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello, convicted and sentenced in Great Britain for words and acts spoken and done in this country by ignoring our naturalization laws, and to take such other measures as will secure their return to our flag, with such ceremonies as are appropriate to the occasion."

I further call your attention to the fact that a Bill which has passed the House of Representatives is now engaging the attention of the Senate, the effect of which Bill, if it become a law, will be to require the President to make reprisals in cases of judicial denial in Great Britain to naturalized Americans of the rights which are conceded there to native American citizens.

You will be expected to read the Resolution referred to, together with this instruction, to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and to give him a copy of these papers if he shall request it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States.

FORTIETH CONGRESS.—SECOND SESSION.

Congress of the United States.—In the House of Representatives.

June 15, 1868.

On motion of Mr. Robinson:

Resolved,—That the President of the United States is hereby requested by this House to take such measures as shall appear proper to secure the release from imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello, convicted and sentenced in Great Britain for words and acts spoken and done in this country by ignoring our naturalization laws; and to take such other measures as will secure their return to our flag, with such ceremonies as are appropriate to the occasion.

Attest.
(Signed) EDWARD Mc PHERSON, *Clerk.*

No. 3.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Thornton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 28, 1868.

THE United States' Chargé d'Affaires at this Court has communicated to me a despatch which he has received from Mr. Seward, bearing date the 22nd ultimo, in which Mr. Seward alludes to the frequent remonstrances and expostulations which have been addressed on the part of the United States' Government to Her Majesty's Government against the imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello in this country, and complaining that the judicial severity maintained by Her Majesty's Government in these cases tends to embarrass the friendly relations between the two countries, and to protract the political

excitement which has unhappily for some time disturbed the peace of the British realm, and the British provinces adjacent to the United States.

Mr. Seward, in the same despatch, alluded to his having on many occasions urged on the British Government, though without success, the necessity of a modification of the laws of the British realm in the case of subjects of Great Britain who have become citizens of the United States under their naturalization laws. Mr. Moran also communicated to me, by Mr. Seward's desire, a copy of the Resolution of the House of Representatives, dated June 15, requesting the President to take such measures as shall appear proper to secure the release of Messrs. Warren and Costello, convicted and sentenced for words and acts spoken and done in the United States, by ignoring the United States' naturalization laws.

Of the two questions dealt with in this despatch, that which relates to the naturalization laws has been already treated of by me in the despatch which I addressed to you on the 16th ultimo, reporting the substance of a conversation which I had had with Mr. Moran. To the reasons there assigned as against the immediate conclusion of a Treaty on that subject, I have nothing to add, and I cannot doubt but that the explanations already entered into, will satisfy the Government and people of the United States of the sincere desire of Her Majesty's Government to dispose of this question in a manner which shall be satisfactory to both countries.

As regards the imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello, I have to point out to you that the allegation on which Mr. Seward's request for their release is founded, viz., that they were convicted and sentenced for words spoken, and acts committed, in the United States, rests on a total misconception of the facts of the case.

These prisoners were convicted of treason-felony at the Commission Court for the county of Dublin, held in October last; the most prominent overt act insisted upon and proved against them being that they had come over to Ireland and cruized along the coast with intent to effect a landing of men and arms in Ireland, in order to raise insurrection against the Queen.

The evidence adduced against these prisoners in the course of the trial, of words spoken and acts committed by them in the United States, was given in strict accordance with the rules of law, as part of the testimony connecting them with a Fenian conspiracy which had existed in the county of Dublin, in which county the Commission Court sat; and which conspiracy had for its object the subversion of Her Majesty's authority, and the establishment of a Republic in Ireland.

You will read this despatch to Mr. Seward, and leave a copy of it with him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

NORTH AMERICA. No. 2. (1868).

Correspondence with the United States respecting the Imprisonment of Messrs. Warren and Costello.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

EXTRACT OF A DESPATCH

FROM

MR. MALLET TO LORD STANLEY,

REGARDING THE

NEGOTIATIONS

FOR A

SUPPLEMENTARY COMMERCIAL CONVENTION

BETWEEN THE

UNITED KINGDOM AND AUSTRIA.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Extract of a Despatch from Mr. Mallet to Lord Stanley, regarding the Negotiations for a Supplementary Commercial Convention between the United Kingdom and Austria.

Mr. Mallet to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 21.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, May* 4, 1868.

THE conclusion of the recent Treaty of Commerce between Austria and the Zollverein, which will be in full operation on the 1st of June next, and the consequent extension to British produce and manufactures, in virtue of the most-favoured-nation Article of the Anglo-Austrian Treaty of 1865, of the Tariff of import duties which it provides, makes it important that Her Majesty's Government should lose no time in affording information to the commercial public of the United Kingdom, as to the results which will have been thus secured for British trade.

The task imposed on the Mixed Commission provided by the IVth Article of the Treaty of 1865, was to ascertain and determine the value of the different articles of British produce and manufacture, with a view to the due execution of Article III, by which it was stipulated that on and after the 1st of January, 1867, the duty should not exceed 25 per cent., and on and after the 1st of January, 1870, 20 per cent. on the value of such articles.

The history of this Commission must be reserved for a future occasion; but it will be essential to state, in explanation of the imperfect execution of Article III, that an agreement between the British and Austrian Commissioners having been found hopeless, it became necessary for Her Majesty's Government to seek some other practical mode of effecting the main objects of the Treaty, and that an arrangement was ultimately agreed upon between the two Governments, which, although far from being the literal execution of Article III, was considered, on the one hand, to present equal, and in many cases greater, advantages to British trade, and, on the other, to cause less derangement of the Austrian Customs system.

The delay which has occurred in the execution of this arrangement will doubtless be the subject of explanation at a future time, but the point upon which it is essential that immediate information should be given to the public is, that the postponement of the signature of the Supplemental Convention now proposed by Baron Beust will not of itself in any way retard the application of the new Tariff to British trade, as the effect of such Convention will be anticipated, with respect to all the reductions which are to be made before the 1st of January, 1869, by the operation of the recent Treaty between Austria and the Zollverein.

On the resumption of negotiations between Austria and Prussia in February last, the Imperial Government naturally took, as the basis of their proposals, the reductions which they had agreed with Her Majesty's Government to make, in execution of the Treaty of 1865; and hence it will be found that, with one or two exceptions, to which I shall refer again, those reductions have been incorporated in the Conventional Tariff annexed to the Austro-Prussian Treaty just concluded.

By the double operation, therefore, of that Treaty, and of the most-favoured-nation Article of the Anglo-Austrian Treaty of 1865, British trade will indirectly obtain, on the 1st June next, all the advantages which would have been directly secured at that date by the conclusion at this moment of the proposed Supplemental Convention, and the arrangements resulting from the British negotiations in 1867 will, with the exceptions before referred to, be brought into force without further delay.

With a view of enabling your Lordship to place before Parliament in a useful and complete form the results of this long negotiation, I have the honour to inclose two statements:—

1. A comparative Table, showing in three columns the import duties in Austria upon the principal articles of British export in 1865, 1867, and 1868, from and after the 1st June next.

The duties which appear in the first column are those which existed prior to the Treaty of December 1865.

The duties in the second column are those which were applied to British trade directly in execution of the Final Protocol annexed to the Treaty itself, and of the Protocol of July 1866; and indirectly, through the operation of the most-favoured-nation Article of the Treaty, in virtue of which the Tariff previously enjoyed by the Zollverein alone, and the Conventional Tariff annexed to the Treaty between Austria and France, of December 1866, were extended to Great Britain on 1st January, 1867; several of the reductions made by the latter Tariff having been conceded to France with a direct view, on the part of Austria, to the fulfilment of her engagements to England, and being therefore directly attributable to the Anglo-Austrian Treaty of December 1865.

The duties in the third column are those which will become applicable to British trade on the 1st June next, when the Treaty between Austria and the Zollverein comes into force, under the operation of the most-favoured-nation Article of the Treaty of 1865, but which are (as has been already stated) the direct result of the British negotiations.

2. A Table showing the further reductions made on the occasion of the Austro-Zollverein Treaty, beyond those already secured prospectively by England last September, and also applicable to British trade on the 1st June next, under the most-favoured-nation Article of the Treaty of 1865.

The only additional information which it is necessary to afford at the present time, relates to two important branches of the Austrian Tariff, which, under the new scale of duties, will, I fear, still be regarded by the interests which they affect, as inconsistent, in some respects, with the due execution of the stipulations of Article III of the Treaty of 1865. I refer to the Tariffs for cotton and woollen tissues.

These important interests have not, as your Lordship is aware, been in any way overlooked, and the further arrangements with respect to them which will be brought into force on the 1st January next, and of which due notice will be given to the public, will, I hope, be considered of a satisfactory nature.

Inclosure 1.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the Reductions in the Import Duties in Austria on the Principal Articles of British Export, which have resulted directly or indirectly from the Treaty of 1865.

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per Centner.		
	1865.	1867.	1868, from June 1.
	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
Fish—herrings, salted	1 58	0 50	0 50
Chemicals—			
Copperas, green	0 25	Free	Free
Soda	0 42	0 40	0 40
Alum	1 50	0 75	0 75
Sal ammoniac	1 50	0 75	0 75
Caustic soda	2 50	2 0	2 0
METALS.			
1. Lead, rough, in pigs, &c., also old, and type metal	0 75	0 75	0 75
2. Litharge	1 0	0 75	0 75
Sheets, pipes, bullets, shot, &c.	3 50	2 50	2 50
Printing type and stereotype plates	3 0	2 50	2 50
Iron and steel—			
Pig, old, broken, refuse, &c.	0 42	0 40	0 25
Wrought (hammered or rolled), in unshaped bars, and lump iron	2 10	1 50	1 25
Rails for railways	2 50	1 50	1 25

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per Centner.					
	1865.		1867.		1868, from June 1.	
	Fl.	kr.	Fl.	kr.	Fl.	kr.
Raw, cement, cast and refined steel, unshaped	2	50	1	50	1	25
Roughly forged parts of machines and waggons, provided that each separate part weighs 50 lbs.* and above	3	50	2	50	1	25
					* Reduced from 100 to 50 lbs.	
Wrought iron pipes	5	0	4	0	1	25
Iron and steel bars, shaped	4	0	2	50	1	75
Angle iron	4	0	2	50	1	75
Tyres	3	50	2	50	1	75
Ploughshare iron	3	50	2	50	1	75
Anchors, and anchor and ships' chains	3	50	2	50	1	75
Iron sheets, black or dressed	3	50	2	50	2	0
Steel sheets, rough (unpolished)	3	50	2	50	2	0
Iron and steel plates, rough (unpolished)	3	50	2	50	2	0
„ wire, „ „	4	0	2	50	2	0
Iron sheets and plates, polished, varnished, tinned, coppered, &c.	4	0	4	0	4	0
Iron wire, ditto, ditto, ditto	4	0	4	0	4	0
Steel sheets or plates, ground or polished	4	0	4	0	4	0
Steel wire, polished	5	0	4	0	4	0
Steel strings for musical instruments	5	0	4	0	4	0
Castings, rough, coarse (castings from the mould), such as kettles, stoves, plates, pipes, &c.*	1	0	0	75	0	75
					* Limit of weight abolished, which is equivalent to a considerable reduction of duty on many articles.	
Zinc—						
Plates, sheets and bars	2	0	1	50	0	75
Wire and pipes; also castings of zinc, rough, plain, or combined with wood, or bar or sheet iron	2	50	2	50	1	50
Tin—bars, plates, sheets, or wire; also pipes and castings, rough, plain, or combined with wood, or bar or sheet iron	3	0	2	50	2	0
Copper, brass, nickel, packfong, tombac, and other unspecified common metals and mixed metals—bars, plates, sheets, and wire; also coarse castings, as bells and pipes (each weighing above 10 lbs.*), or other objects (each weighing above 25 lbs.†)	6	0	4	0	3	0
					* Limit of weight reduced from 25 lbs. † Ditto, ditto, from 100 lbs.	
YARNS.						
Cotton yarns—						
Unbleached, undyed (except twist of 3 or more threads)	5	25	4	0	4	0
Bleached or twisted, ditto, ditto	10	50	6	0	6	0
Dyed (twisted or not)	13	15	13	15	13	15
Linen yarns —						
Unbleached, undyed, and untwisted	2	63	3	0	3	0
N.B.—*Jute Yarns, unbleached, &c.*	2	63	3	0	0	75
Bleached, improved, or dyed, not twisted	8	0	4	50	4	50
Twisted	13	15	13	15	13	15
Woollen yarns—						
1. Of carded wool	1	0	0	75	0	75
2. Of combed wool (weft yarn)	4	50	0	75	0	75
(Neither dyed nor twisted, of 3 or more threads)						
Of soft combed wool	4	50	4	50	4	50
Dyed or twisted	13	15	13	15	13	15
WOVEN AND KNITTED WARES.						
Cotton manufactures—						
(Pure or mixed with flax or hemp, but without mixture of silk, wool, or other animal hair.)						
Woven wicks, gitter (marly) girths, nets, fish, bird, horse, &c.	36	0	15	0	15	0
Stiffened nets for linings (stiff nets)	262	50	100	0	15	0
1. Plain (unfigured), raw (made of raw yarn), close-woven tissues	36	0	25	0	20	0
Also twills, croisés, napped or dressed, bleached or dyed	62	0	25	0	20	0
2. Figured, raw, close-woven tissues; all wares named under 1 and 2, except red-dyed and velvet-like tissues (with cut or uncut nap), and except those specified under (*c*)	62	0	25	0	20	0
1. Figured, close-woven wares, bleached or dyed (of one or more colours)	62	0	45	0	40	0

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per Centner.					
	1865.		1867.		1868, from June 1.	
	Fl.	kr.	Fl.	kr.	Fl.	kr.
2. All many-coloured and red-dyed, plain, close-woven tissues	62	0	45	0	40	0
3. All velvet and velvet-like woven wares (with cut or uncut nap)	62	0	45	0	40	0
4. Tapes and ribbons, button-makers', haberdashery, and hosiery wares	62	0	45	0	40	0
Also *Furniture and curtain nets*	262	50	100	0	40	0
5. All printed wares	62	0	45	0	40	0
(So far as the above are not comprised under *d* and *e*.)						
All open-woven tissues (except those named under *e*)	90	0	70	0	60	0
Tulle (English make), bobbinets, petinets (except furniture and curtain nets), lace, embroidery wares, and all wares combined with metallic threads or spun glass	262	50	100	0	100	0
And from 1st January, 1870	..		..		80	0
Linen manufactures—						
Unbleached pack linen	1	50	0	75	0	75
NOTE.—By unbleached pack linen is understood a plain, smooth, unbleached, or *simply twilled* tissue, without pattern, and not containing more than 30* warp threads to the Vienna inch.					* Limit of threads increased from 24 to 30, and plain twills admitted on demand of British Commissioner in 1866.	
Linens—						
Most common, viz.,—						
1. Linen (except those named under *d* and *e*), and tickings, raw, unbleached, and unfigured	10	0	6	0	6	0
2. Coverings and druggetings (foot and carriage coverings and roll carpets), dyed and figured	10	0	6	0	6	0
Wares named under 1 and 2 when made of jute only	10	0	3	0	3	0
Common, viz.,—						
All close-woven tissues, not otherwise specified	36	0	25	0	20	0
NOTE.—*Linen cloth, bleached, dyed, or printed, up to 50 warp threads to the Vienna inch*	36	0	25	0	10	0
					New class.	
Middle fine, viz.,—						
1. All linen cloth containing more than 100 warp threads to the Vienna inch	70	0	45	0	40	0
2. Haberdashery, tapes, and ribbons, buttonmaker's and hosiery wares	70	0	45	0	40	0
Fine, viz.,—						
Batiste, gauze, lawn, and other open woven tissues (except those named under *f*)	75	0	70	0	60	0
Finest, viz.,—						
Lace, edgings, embroidered woven wares, and wares combined with metallic threads or spun glass	262	50	70	0	70	0
Woollen manufactures—						
Horse rugs and most common stuffs	8	0	5	0	5	0
Fulled, unprinted tissues (except those of the nature of velvet); unprinted felt wares and carpets	36	0	25	0	20	0
1. All velvet-like, all unfulled, close-woven, and all printed* woollen wares (except those named under *d* and *e*)	54	0	45	0	40	0
	*75	0	45	0	40	0
2. Haberdashery, buttonmaker's and hosiery wares	54	0	45	0	40	0
All open-woven tissues (except those named under *e*); also shawls and scarfs, without mixture of silk	90	0	70	0	60	0
Lace, lace cloths, embroidered woven wares, and wares combined with metallic threads or spun glass	262	50	70	0	70	0
Silk manufactures—						
Fine,—						
Wares of pure silk or floss silk, blondes, lace, &c., of silk. Silk wares mixed with metallic threads or spun glass	262	50	120	0	120	0
And from 1st January, 1872	..		..		80	0
Common,—						
Silk wares containing a mixture of other weaving or knitting materials, &c. (half-silk goods)	103	0	60	0	60	0
NOTE.—*Tissues containing only a small portion of silk for the formation of a design or an ornament are not classed with tissues of pure or mixed silk.*			Provisions for woollens and other tissues containing small mixtures of silk, applied for by British Commissioners in 1866.			

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per Centner.		
	1865.	1867.	1868, from June 1.
	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
Oil cloth, waterproof cloth, waxed muslin, &c.—			
1. Oil cloth, coarse, viz., packing cloth, unprinted and asphalt linen; also waggon covers of linen covered with caoutchouc	1 50	1 0	1 0
2. *Hose of hemp, combined with India rubber or gutta percha, and driving bands for machinery*	25 0	25 0	1 0 New position.
Fine, viz., *all other kinds;* also painter's canvass and leather cloth	12 0	10 0	5 0 New class for floorcloth, &c.
Waxed muslin and taffeta	12 0	10 0	10 0
Others—			
1. Elastic webbings	25 0	25 0	25 0
2. Waterproof tissues of indiarubber and stuffs with insertions of indiarubber, &c.	25 0	25 0	25 0
NOTE.—The stuffs named under 2 for *parts of cards, or when used for machinery*	25 0	25 0	5 0 New class for parts of machinery made of indiarubber, &c.
Ready made clothing and millinery—			
Common, *i.e.*, of common materials	78 75	30 0	25 0
Middle, fine	78 75	50 0	45 0
Fine	157 50	65 0	65 0
Finest	262 50	125 0	125 0
And from January 1, 1872	..	..	85 0
PAPER AND PAPER WARES.			
Paper—			
Most common, viz.,—			
Grey, blotting, and coarse packing paper; roofing and sheathing paper; pasteboard covers and pressing boards, &c.	0 75	0 75	Free.
Common, viz.,—			
1. Unsized, common (coarse, grey, half white, and coloured), and all unsized printing paper	2 75	50	1 0
2. Mouldings, &c., plain, or combined with wood or iron, but not lacquered nor painted			
Fine, viz.,—			
Sized and variegated papers (except those named under *d*), lithographed, printed or ruled paper prepared for labels, bills, &c., also tracing, gout, oil, wax, gutta percha, and chalk paper, pasteboard, and all sized paper not named under *b*	5 50	3 0	3 0
Finest, &c.,—			
Gold and silver, or paper with gold and silver patterns, embossed and stamped out paper and strips thereof	12 50	8 0	6 0
Wares of paper or pasteboard (except playing cards) or of paper, paste, &c. (so far as they are not included under *b*, 1)	12 50	12 0	7 50 and from Jan. 1, 1869, 6 0
Paper, &c., wares combined with other materials, so far as they do not come under "kurzewaaren" (small wares), and letter envelopes, also when lined with cotton or linen cloth	12 50	12 0	7 50
And from January 1, 1869	..	..	6 0
Paper hangings	12 50	4 0	4 0
And from January 1, 1870*	..	..	3 0 * Changes from 1872 to 1870.
GLASS AND GLASS WARES.			
Most common, viz.,—			
Hollow glass vessels of green, black, and yellow glass in its natural tints, neither polished, smoothed, nor ground; *also glass* and *enamel in masses*	0 75	0 75 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	0 75 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per centner.		
	1865.	1867.	1868, from June 1.
Common, viz.,—	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
White hollow glass, not figured, polished, ground, nor pressed, but with cut or ground stoppers, bottoms, and brims; also window and sheet glass in its natural tints (green, half and wholly white)	2 25	1 50	1 0
Middle fine, viz.,—			
Pressed, smooth, ground, cut, figured, massive, chandelier, drops, all uncoloured. Buttons, beads, drops, and enamel, plain or coloured	7 25	4 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	4 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Glass and enamel in tubes	7 25	0 75 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	0 75 or 10 per cent. *ad valor*
Glass coral, dyed or coloured	10 50	4 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	4 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Fine, viz.,—			
1. Coloured, painted, gilt, silvered, cameo or inlaid glass, glass flux for imitation jewels, unset	10 50	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
2. Looking-glasses, polished, silvered or not, in pieces not exceeding 284 square Vienna inches	10 50	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
Glass and enamel wares, combined with other materials (provided they do not fall under other positions of the Tariff)	15 0	12 0	12 0
Plate glass, polished or silvered, and plate glass unpolished and silvered, in pieces exceeding 284 square Vienna inches..	15 0	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*	6 0 or 10 per cent. *ad valorem.*
EARTHENWARE AND PORCELAIN.			
Most common, viz.,—			
Ordinary potters' wares of common clay, glazed or not, stove-tiles, graphite wares, paving-tiles, and similar wares of clay for building purposes, and crucibles, one-coloured and unpainted; also clay pipes	0 25	0 25	0 25
NOTE. Hollow and paving-tiles of common clay, of one or more colours, and painted or glazed (encaustic tiles) ..	6 0	5 50	Free.
Common, viz.,—			
1. Stoneware and earthenware, one-coloured or white, with coloured brims	4 50	2 50	2 50
Also many coloured and printed or painted .. .	6 0	4 50	2 50
2. Earthenware named under *a*, when combined with common wood or iron and most common vessels with covers and fittings of tin	4 50	2 50	2 50
3. Porcelain, white or with coloured brims or lines (except of gold or silver	6 0	4 50	2 50
Stone and earthenware, gilt or silvered	6 0	4 50	4 50
Porcelain coloured, painted, printed, gilt, or silvered; also earthenware combined with other materials (not included under small ware)	15 0	12 0	7 50
And from January 1, 1869	..	..	6 0
METAL WARES.			
Lead wares; dishes, plates, cylinders, bowls, and other household utensils..	12 0	4 50	4 50
Iron and steel wares—			
Most common, viz.,—			
1. Coarse castings, so far as they are not comprised under 40 (*f*)	5 0	4 50	2 0
*2. *Other coarse iron wares, such as anvils, spits, crowbars, tripods, harrows, traps, fire-tongs and fire-dogs, dung, hay, and oven forks, rakes, hoes, cramp-irons, winches, windlasses, heckets, drags, horse-shoes, brace-irons, trowels, cauldrons, chains (except anchor and ships'), cooking utensils not enamelled, nailsmiths' wares (except wire nails) stoves, pans, ploughs, flat-irons, coarse rings, gridirons, shovels, mallets, smiths' and locksmiths' utensils (except edge tools), screw bolts and mother screws, pokers, pestles, coarse scale beams, carriage springs, carriage door and chest clamps, wire netting, and coarse wire gauze, up to 10 threads to the current Vienna inch*	5 0	4 50	2 0

* New class introduced.

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per centner.		
	1865.	1867.	1868, from June 1.
	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
All the objects named above under 1 and 2, rough, or when the smaller part is ground or painted, also when combined with wood.			
Common—			
1. All iron and steel wares completely ground, coppered, tinned, or varnished, but neither polished, lacquered, or enamelled, so far as they are not named under Positions *a*, *c*, and *d*.			
2. Axes (pickaxes), saws, scythes, sickles, chopping-knives, chisels, planes, clothmakers' garden, sheep, and tailors' coarse shears, common knives for workmen's use, borers, millers' picks, files, rasps, and screws.			
3. Wire ropes, wire nails, and wire brushes, sieve bottoms, tower clocks, and enamelled cooking utensils	6 0	4 50	4 0
All the above wares under 1, 2, and 3 combined, or not with wood.			
Fine—			
1. Ornaments for men and women, and small toilet objects (except those falsely gilt or silvered).			
2. Wire gauze and wire wares (except those named under *a* and *b*), fish-hooks, tags, clasps, needles (except sewing needles), buckles of wire, and wire covered with paper.			
3. Jews' harps, thimbles, pen-sheathes, and handles, steel beads, weavers' reeds, combs, and dents, and cards of all kinds.			
4. Weapons (except fire-arms) and parts of weapons of all kinds.			
5. All polished, lacquered, and enamelled articles, except those named under *a* and *d*; household furniture stuffed (with or without coverings), and all iron wares, except those named under *d*, in combination with other materials, in so far as these combinations do not fall under "small wares"	15 0	12 0	7 50
And from January 1, 1869	. .	. .	6 0
Sewing needles, pens, watch and clock furniture and works .	25 0	15 0	15 0
And fire-arms of all kinds	15 0	15 0	15 0
Remarks to Position 69 :—			
1. A coarse paint or varnish for protection against rust, or immaterial parts of other common metals (neither gilt nor silvered) are not to be taken into account in classifying the above wares.			
2. Weapons and parts of weapons must be declared as such. Special regulations prescribe how far their import and transit is permitted.			
Metal wares, other than iron and lead—			
Tin wares, coarse, viz. : dishes, plates, kettles, and other vessels not lacquered nor combined with other materials	5 0	2 50	2 50
Common wares (of common or mixed metals), viz., cylinders, kettles, dishes, plates, pots, and other cooking utensils (except those named under *a*), perforated sheets and plates, and brass strings for musical instruments	7 50	4 50	4 0
Fine, viz.,—			
1. Copper smiths', brass smiths', and brass sheet wares.			
2. Ground brass (bronze powder), and wire gauze.			
3. Dutch gold and silver, leaf metal, spurious leonic wire, and spurious leaf gold or silver.			
4. Plated (silvered) wire, sheets and plates of copper or brass.			
5. All metal wares not named under *a*, *b*, and *d*; also those in combination with other materials, so far as they do not fall under "small wares"	15 0	12 0	7 50
And from January 1, 1869	. .	. .	6 0
Pens, watch and clock furniture and works	15 0	15 0	15 0
Carriages for persons, with fittings and upholstery work . .	105 0 each	105 0 each	75 0 each
Machinery—			
Machines and parts of machines not otherwise specified, according to the weight of the predominating material—			
Made of wood	1 0	1 0	1 0
Made of cast iron	2 50	2 50	1 33
Made of wrought iron or steel	4 0	4 0	2 0
Made of other common unspecified metals	7 50	7 50	4 0
		Reduced rates granted on application to Minister of Finance.	Fixed rates.

Description of Articles.	Rates of Duty, per Centner.		
	1865.	1867.	1868, from June 1.
	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
Small wares ("kurze-waaren")—			
Finest	262 50	262 50	75 0
Fine	100 0	50 0	50 0
NOTE.—Wares of common metals, gilt, silvered, or plated, with the exception of jewellery wares, from January 1, 1872	..	25 0	25 0
Common	50 0	30 0	25 0
MISCELLANEOUS.			
Ink and ink powder	15 0	12 0	12 0
Lead pencils	15 0	12 0	12 0
Colours in cakes, shells, &c.	15 0	12 0	12 0
Perfumery wares	15 0	12 0	12 0
Soap, not perfumed—			
Green, black, and common hard	3 15	1 25	1 25
Other hard soaps	3 15	3 0	3 0
Soap, perfumed	15 75	5 0	5 0
Lucifers	0 75	Free	Free
Percussion caps, filled	16 0	12 0	12 0
Railway carriages .. .. each	300 0	300 0	300 0
Musical instruments	10 0	10 0	7 50

Inclosure 2.

TABLE showing the further Reductions made in the Austrian Tariff by the Austro-Zollverein Treaty beyond those already secured prospectively by England last September.

Description of Articles.	Rates of Import duty fixed. Per Centner.	
	By Treaty with England.	By Treaty with Zollverein.
	Fl. kr.	Fl. kr.
Steel—		
Raw, in blocks or cast pieces	1 25	0 75
Iron—		
Castings, rough, coarse, castings from the mould, kettles, stoves, plates, wheels, pipes, &c...	0 75	0 60
Cotton Yarns—		
Unbleached, of 3 or more threads	10 50	9 0
Bleached, of 3 or more threads	10 50	9 0
Dyed (except twisted of 3 or more threads)	13 15	6 0
„ of 3 or more threads	13 15	9 0
Linen Yarns—		
Unbleached, undyed, and untwisted	3 0 (except Jute, which was 0 75)	0 75
Bleached, improved, or dyed, but not twisted	4 50	2 50
Twisted	13 15	6 0
Woollen Yarns—		
Of soft combed wool, neither dyed nor of 3 or more threads ..	4 50	4 0
Dyed, or twisted of 3 or more threads	13 15	6 0
Indiarubber Wares—		
1. Elastic webbings..	25 0	22 50
2. Waterproof tissues of indiarubber and stuffs, with insertion of india-rubber, &c.		
NOTE.—Stuffs named under 2 for parts of cards, or when used for machinery	5 0	4 50
Paper—		
Fine, viz., sized and variegated papers (except those named under *d*); lithographed, printed, or ruled paper, prepared for labels, bills, &c.; also tracing, gout, oil, wax, gutta percha and chalk paper, pasteboard, and all sized paper not named under *b*	3 0	1 50
Glass—		
Green, black, and yellow hollow glass vessels in natural tints, neither pressed, polished, nor ground	0 75	Free.
Glass and enamel wares, combined with other materials, provided they do not come under "small wares."	12 0	7 50 and from Jan. 1, 1869, 6 0
Earthenware—		
Ordinary potters' wares (other than paving tiles, which were free) ..	0 25	Free.
Lead Wares—		
Dishes, plates, cylinders, and other utensils	4 50	4 0
Iron Wares—		
Scythes, sickles, and chopping (chaff) knives	4 0	2 0
Screws and wire nails	4 0	3 50
Carriages, railway	300 florins each.	10 per cent. *ad. val.*
Musical instruments	7 50	3 0
Ink and ink-powder	12 0	5 0

Extract of a Despatch from Mr. Mallet to Lord Stanley regarding the Negotiations for a Supplementary Commercial Convention between the United Kingdom and Austria.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

TREATY OF NAVIGATION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND

HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

Signed at Vienna, April 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON :
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

4065

Treaty of Navigation between Her Majesty and His Majesty the Emperor of Austria.

Signed at Vienna, April 30, 1868.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Vienna, June* 26, 1868.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on the one part, and His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, on the other part, being equally animated by the desire of extending and promoting the facilities of Navigation between their respective States and Dominions, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for that purpose, and have named for their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say :—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable John Arthur Douglas Baron Bloomfield of Oakhampton and Redwood, a Peer of Ireland, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty; and Louis Mallet, Esquire, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Assistant-Secretary to the Committee of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council for Trade and Foreign Plantations ;

And His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, Frederic Ferdinand Baron Beust, His Imperial Majesty's Privy Councillor, Chancellor of the Empire, and Minister of the Imperial House and of Foreign Affairs, Grand Cross of the Orders of St. Stephen and Leopold :

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles :—

IHRE Majestät die Königin des vereinigten Königreichs von Grossbritannien und Irland, auf der eine Seite, und Seine Kaiserlich-Königlich Apostolische Majestät auf der anderen Seite, von dem Wunsch beseelt die zwischen Ihren beiderseitigen Staaten und Besitzungen bestehendenden Schifffahrts-Beziehungen wechselseitig zu erleichtern und auszudehnen, haben beschlossen einen Vertrag zu diesem Zwecke einzugehen, und haben zu Ihren Bevollmächtigten ernannt, nämlich :

Ihre Majestät die Königin des vereinigten Königreichs von Grossbritannien und Irland, den sehr ehrenwerthen Johann Arthur Douglas Baron Bloomfield von Oakhampton und Redwood, Pair von Irland, Mitglied Ihrer Brittischen Majestät höchst ehrenwerthen Geheimraths, Grosskreuz des höchst ehrenwerthen Bath-Ordens, Allerhöchst Ihren ausserordentlichen und bevollmächtigten Botschafter bei Seiner Kaiserlich-Königlich Apostolischen Majestät; und den Herrn Louis Mallet, Esquire, Ritter des höchst ehrenwerthen Bath-Ordens, beigeordneten Sekretär des Comité's Ihrer Majestät höchst ehrenwerthen Geheimraths für den Handel und auswärtigen Pflanzstätten ;

Seine Kaiserlich-Königliche Apostolische Majestät, den Herrn Friedrich Ferdinand Freiherrn von Beust, Allerhöchst Ihren Geheimen Rath, Reichskanzler und Minister des Hauses und der Auswärtigen Angelegenheiten, Grosskreuz des St. Stefan- und des Leopold-Ordens :

Welche, nach gegenseitiger Mittheilung ihrer in guter und gehöriger form befundenen Vollmachten, die nachstehenden Artikel vereinbart und abgeschlossen haben :—

ARTICLE I.

British ships and their cargoes in all the dominions of His Imperial and Royal

ARTIKEL I.

Britische Schiffe und deren Ladungen sollen in allen Besitzungen Seiner Kaiserlich-

Apostolic Majesty, and ships belonging to the citizens of the Imperial and Royal States and their cargoes in all the dominions of Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, from whatever place arriving and whatever may be their place of destination, and whatever may be the place of origin or destination of their cargoes, shall be treated in every respect as national ships and their cargoes.

Every favour or exemption in these respects, or any other privilege in matters of Navigation, which either of the Contracting Parties shall grant to a third Power, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the other Party.

It is, however, agreed that this stipulation shall not be applicable to the national fisheries of either of the two countries.

Königlich Apostolischen Majestät, und Schiffe von Angehörigen der Staaten Seiner Kaiserlich-Königlich Apostolischen Majestät und deren Ladungen in allen Besitzungen Ihrer Majestät der Königin des vereinigten Königreichs von Grossbritannien und Irland, gleichwiel woher die Schiffe kommen, oder wohin sie gehen, und woher die Ladungen kommen, oder wohin sie bestimmt sind, in jeder Beziehung wie die einheimischen Schiffe und deren Ladungen behandelt werden.

Jede Begunstigung oder Befreiung in dieser Beziehung, so wie jedes andere die Schiffahrt betreffende Privilegium, welches einer der vertragenden Theile einer dritten Macht gewähren würde, soll augenblichlich und bedingungslos auf den anderen Theil ausgedehnt werden.

Man ist jedoch darüber einverstanden, dass diese Bestimmung auf die nationale Fischerei beidertheile keine Anwendung finden soll.

ARTICLE II.

The stipulations contained in the preceding Article are also to be applied to the Colonies and Foreign Possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, as well as to the ships and cargoes of the same; but, as regards the coasting trade, only in those Colonies and Foreign Possessions the coasting trade of which shall have been, or shall be hereafter, opened to foreign ships in conformity with the Acts of Parliament which govern this matter.

The Foreign Possessions and Colonies of Her Britannic Majesty the coasting trade of which has been already so opened to foreign ships, and in which therefore ships belonging to the citizens of the Imperial and Royal States are placed on the national footing, are:

British India,
Ceylon,
Cape of Good Hope,
Victoria,
St. Lucia.

ARTIKEL II.

Die in dem vorstehenden Artikel enthaltenen Bestimmungen finden auch auf die Kolonien und auswärtigen Besitzungen Ihrer Brittischen Majestät, sowie auf deren Schiffe und Ladungen anwendung, jedoch was die Kustenschiffahrt betrifft, nur in jenen Kolonien und auswärtigen Besitzungen deren Kustenchiffahrt in Gemässheit der über den gegenstand ergangenen Parlamentsakten fremden Schiffen geöffnet ist, oder in zukunft eröffnet werden sollte.

Die auswärtigen Besitzungen und Kolonien Ihrer Brittischen Majestät deren Kustenschiffahrt fremden Schiffen bereits geöffnet wurde, und in welchen desshalb Schiffe von angehörigen der Kaiserlich-Königlichen Staaten, wie die eigenen behandelt werden, sind:

Britisch Indien,
Ceylon,
Cap der Guten Hoffnung,
Victoria,
St. Lucia.

ARTICLE III.

If any ship of war or merchant-vessel of one of the Contracting Parties should run aground or be wrecked, or meet with any casualty upon the coasts of the other, the same aid and assistance shall be rendered to it, and to the cargo, apparel, and furniture thereof, as to a national vessel; and in such case no other expenses shall be paid by the owners or their agents and representatives for the preservation of the property or of the lives of the persons on board the ship, than would be payable in

ARTIKEL III.

Wenn ein Kriegs- oder Handelsschiff eines der beiden vertragenden Theile an den Kusten des anderen Schiffbruch oder Havarie oder irgend einen Unfall erleiden solte, so soll ihm, so wie seiner Ladung, seinen Geräthen, und seiner Ausrüstung derselbe Schutz und Beistand geleistet werden, wie einem einheimischen Schiffe; auch sollen in einem solchen Falle von den Eigenthümern, deren bevollmächtigten oder Vertretern für die Sicherung ihres Eigenthums oder des Lebens der an Bord befind-

the like case of a wreck of or casualty to a national vessel.

In case the master of a merchant-vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his merchandize in order to defray any salvage expenses, no impediment shall be opposed by the authorities, the master being bound, however, to conform to the existing regulations and Tariffs.

The goods and merchandise saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all duties of Customs, unless cleared for consumption.

The respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents shall, if the owner or master, or other agent of the owner, is not present, or is present and requires it, or is bound by the laws of his country to accept Consular assistance, be authorized to interpose in order to afford the necessary assistance to those concerned.

lichen Personen keine anderen Kosten zu bezahlen sein, als in dem entsprechenden Falle des Schiffbruches oder des Unfalles eines einheimischen Schiffes zu zahlen sein würden.

Sollte der Führer eines Handelsschiffes genöthigt sein, einen Theil seiner Ladung zur Deckung von Rettungskosten zu verkaufen, so soll ihm von Seite der Behörden kein Hinderniss in den Weg gelegt werden; der Führer ist jedoch zur Beachtung der bestehenden Vorschriften und Tarife verpflichtet.

Die von dem Wrak geborgenen Güter und Waaren sollen, soferne sie nicht in den Verbrauch übergehen, von jeder Zollabgabe frei sein.

Wenn der Eigenthümer oder der Schiffsführer, oder ein anderer Bevollmächtigter des Eigenthümers nicht gegenwärtig ist, oder gegenwärtig ist, und es wünscht, oder zur Annahme des Consular-Beistandes durch seine Heimaths-Gesetzgebung verpflichtet ist, sollen die beiderseitigen General-Consuln, Vice-Consuln, oder Consular-Agenten befugt sein, die Gewährung des erforderlichen Beistandes an die Betheiligten zu vermitteln.

ARTICLE IV.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents of each of the Contracting Parties residing in the Dominions and Possessions of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

ARTIKEL IV.

Den General-Consuln, Consuln, Vice-Consuln, und Consular-Agenten jedes der vertragenden Theile, welche in dem Gebiete und den Besitzungen des anderen ihren Sitz haben, soll von den Ortsbehörden jeder gesetzlich zulässige Beistand zur Einbringung der von den Schiffen ihres Landes desertirten Personen geleistet werden.

ARTICLE V.

All vessels which according to British law are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which, according to the laws prevailing in the States of His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, are to be deemed vessels belonging to the subjects of His Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, shall, for the purposes of this Treaty, be respectively deemed British vessels, and vessels belonging to the citizens of the Imperial and Royal States.

ARTIKEL V.

Alle Schiffe welche nach Brittischen Gesetzen als Brittische Schiffe, und alle Schiffe welche nach den Gesetzen der Staaten Seiner Kaiserlich-Königlichen Apostolischen Majestät als Schiffe von angehörigen dieser Staaten anzusehen sind, sollen in allen Beziehungen dieses Vertrages als Brittische, beziehungsweise als Schiffe von angehörigen der Kaiserlich-Königlichen Staaten gelten.

ARTICLE VI.

The present Treaty shall remain in force from the exchange of the ratifications thereof until the 31st December, 1877; and in case neither of the High Contracting Powers shall have notified to the other, twelve months before the expiration of the said period, the intention to put an end to its operation, the Treaty shall continue in force for another year, and so on from year to year, until

ARTIKEL VI.

Gegenwärtiger Vertrag soll vom Tage der Auswechslung der Ratificationen desselben bis zum 31 Dezember, 1877, in Kraft bleiben, und falls kein der hohen kontra hirenden Mächte der anderen zwölf Monate vor Ablauf des besagten Zeitraums die absicht Kundgegeben haben wird, die Wirksamkeit des Vertrages afhören zu lassen, soll der Vertrag für ein weiteres Jahr in Wirk-

the expiration of a year counting from the day on which one or other of the High Contracting Parties shall have announced its intention to put an end to it.

samkeit bleiben, und sofort von Jahr zu Jahr bis zum Ablaufe eines Jahres, von dem Tage an gerechnet, an welchem der eine oder der andere der hohen kontrahirenden Theile seine absicht kundgemacht haben wird, der Wirksamkeit desselben ein Ende zu setzen.

ARTICLE VII.

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Vienna, within eight weeks, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Vienna, this 30th day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

(L.S.) BLOOMFIELD.

(L.S.) LOUIS MALLET.

ARTIKEL VII.

Gegenwärtiger Vertrag soll ratifizirt, und es sollen die Ratifications-Urkunden in Wien, binnen acht Wochen, oder wenn möglich früher, ausgewechselt werden.

Zu Urkund dessen haben die beiderseitigen Bevollmächtigten denselben unterzeichnet und ihre Siegel beigedrückt.

So geschehen zu Wien, am 30 Tage des Monats April, im Jahre des Heiles Achtzehnhundert sechzig und acht.

(L.S.) BEUST.

Treaty of Navigation between Her Majesty and His Majesty the Emperor of Austria.

Signed at Vienna, April 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1*d.*]

LONDON,
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

MEMORIALS

ADDRESSED BY

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN CHINA

TO THE

BRITISH MINISTER AT PEKING,

ON THE SUBJECT OF THE

REVISION OF THE TREATY OF TIEN-TSIN.

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

Memorials addressed by Chambers of Commerce in China to the British Minister at Peking, on the subject of the Revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

SHANGHAE.

Memorial of the Shanghae General Chamber of Commerce.

To Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent of Trade, &c.

General.

BEFORE entering into the details of the various subjects which call for specific attention, your Memorialists deem it advisable to submit to your Excellency a general statement of their views with regard to the working of the present Treaty.

Although, like most instruments of the kind, the Treaty of Tien-tsin is not without its defects, experience has shown that in the main it is suited to the objects for which it was designed, and that its terms, properly adhered to, are sufficient to secure the progress of foreign trade, and bring producers and consumers into direct contact with one another.

The conditions under which it was contemplated that this end would be attained, were, that the satisfactory and faithful carrying out of the various provisions of the Treaty should be secured by the direct supervision of Diplomatic Agents accredited to the capital, who would be able to put in force an active, vigilant, and firm policy with regard to such questions as might from time to time arise. This scheme events have proved to have been wisely devised, and there can be no doubt that, had foreign influence been more stringently felt by the native authorities, the last eight years' intercourse with China would, in the opinion of your Memorialists, have been productive of far greater results in the furtherance of our commerce than has proved to be the case.

Notwithstanding certain impediments, to which your Memorialists will allude hereafter, the success of the scheme laid out by the Treaty is unmistakably shown in the expansion of trade which has taken place since that instrument came into force. In spite of exceptional drawbacks—the effects of a devastating rebellion, and an unprecedented rise in the prices of cotton manufactures consequent upon the outbreak of the American war—trade both in imports and exports has increased, a fact proving that the Treaty is of such a nature that foreign commerce may be developed under its provisions, and justifying the conclusion that there is a vast field for furtherance of mercantile interests in China, and that the capability of the country for consuming manufactured goods is as large as has been generally imagined.

The result of the trade up to the present time must not, however, be taken as an index of what might be obtained if the Treaty provisions were fully carried out. They show what, in spite of much obstructiveness on the part of the native officials, in spite of illegal exactions in the form of transit dues, and in spite of the denial to us of privileges which there can be little question the Treaty was intended to secure, has been accomplished by the natural working of supply and demand, and the trading instincts of the Chinese people. There can, however, be little doubt that, had the full privileges which the Treaty was designed to obtain been accorded to foreign commerce, one very important branch of business, namely the import trade, might have been far more extended than has been the case.

Design of the Treaty.

The design of the Treaty was, by throwing open the producing and consuming districts to foreign capital and energy, and by fostering a closer communication between the Chinese people and Europeans, to introduce an element of progress into our trading relations, previously shackled by innumerable artificial and unjust obstructions.

This object has, however, only been attained to a limited extent. No sooner did the Chinese feel themselves independent of foreigners, after the Taiping Rebellion had been suppressed by their aid, than the native officials began steadily, though insidiously, to

advocate retrogressive views, which it is a matter of regret to your Memorialists, there has been a disposition in influential quarters to endorse and to uphold.

Its Interpretation.

A desire has been shown, in interpreting the Treaty of Tien-tsin, to ignore that element of progress which, if tempered with prudence, could not fail to be productive of the most satisfactory results; a determination has been manifested to read the clauses conferring privileges in a light adverse to foreigners, whenever the text was susceptible of dubious interpretation; and even when the rights claimed by Europeans accorded fully with the spirit of the instrument.

Residence in interior.

The most important question of this nature which has been raised, is that of the right of residence, of renting land and houses, and building premises at other places than the Treaty ports. In this instance the policy of the foreign Governments appears to have been influenced rather by considerations of expediency, than by the strictly legal bearing of the question.

The argument advanced against residence in the interior by Earl Russell, when Foreign Minister for Great Britain, was that the specification of right to reside at the Treaty ports implied the exclusion of the privilege of residence in other parts of the Empire. Your Memorialists would be fully prepared to acknowledge the justness of this view, but for the specific language in which Article XII of the British Treaty is couched. That Article runs as follows:

"British subjects, whether at the ports or at other places, desiring to open houses, warehouses, churches, hospitals, or burial grounds, shall make their agreement for the land or buildings they require at the rates prevailing among the people equitably, and without exaction on either side."

Admitting the validity of the view propounded by Earl Russell above alluded to, it seems clear, in the humble opinion of your Memorialists, that it was precisely to prevent such an argument being applicable, that the words "whether at the ports or other places" were inserted in Article XII. It is needless to observe that it is only when a clause is either ambiguous in itself or inconsistent with a document as a whole, that it is necessary to resort to inferences from the context. If the Article did not contain the words above quoted, it would be ambiguous, and it would then be necessary to infer its meaning from other clauses; but as it stands it does not appear ambiguous; nor is it inconsistent with the general bearing of the Treaty, which, it will not be denied, contemplated that British subjects would proceed into the interior for purposes of business, and may therefore fairly be presumed also to have contemplated the opening of warehouses, without which business cannot be carried on.

Thus the provision most essential to the progress of foreign Trade has been deprived of all practical effect, and the grand design of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, namely the penetration of foreign goods throughout the interior, and the purchase by foreigners of China produce at the places of growth, together with immunity in either case from illegal taxation of every kind, have been altogether nullified.

Unredressed claims on Chinese Government and people.

Similar views to those which have influenced the foreign authorities respecting purely diplomatic questions, have characterized the action taken in matters of a mixed judicial and diplomatic nature, and your Memorialists cannot refrain from expressing their regret at the apparent indifference displayed in the advocacy by the foreign authorities of claims upon the Chinese Government, even in cases where an ordinary sense of justice, no less than the clear provisions of the Treaty, indicated such claims to be well founded.

It is needless to quote all the numerous instances in which injustice has been suffered by foreigners through the bad faith and indifference to right manifested by the Chinese Government. It will be sufficient to call to your Excellency's notice (as much in the hope that it may not yet be too late, in some instances, to obtain tardy redress, as with the view of illustrating the manner in which foreign merchants have too often suffered wrong) those which from their importance and notoriety are leading cases of this nature. The Sung-Yang claims, the still deferred payment of Messrs. Hogg, Brothers, losses arising from salt, and the Nanzing Duties, are instances so notorious that your Memorialists deem it but necessary to refer to them to convince your Excellency of the gross injustice which has too often been experienced. The following are the main facts connected with them.

In the matter of the Sung-Yang claims, a large quantity of property belonging to foreign merchants was, in the month of April, 1865, lost in consequence of its being seized and appropriated by a body of disaffected Imperial troops who were at the time in possession of the above-named city. In one case, namely, that of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., a considerable sum was lost, and six of the natives in the employ of the firm were seized and carried off by the troops, and have not since been heard of, and the nephew of a compradore in the employ was murdered. Application for redress was made, in June 1865, to Mr. Medhurst, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Hankow, and in reply Messrs. Jardine

and Co. were requested to furnish every possible information as to the nature of the occurrence. This was accordingly done, but no answer of a satisfactory nature was received, and the further time granted by your Excellency, on your recent visit to Hankow, for enquiry, has been productive of no satisfactory results to the present day.

The Nanzing Duties consisted of certain taxes, which were levied in June 1861, under the name of war dues, chiefly at Nanzing, and upon silk. The charge at first was 5 taels per bale, but was subsequently raised to 10 taels. This levy was made through the whole of the season 1861-2. Upon teas similar illegal taxes were levied. Various claims sent in to Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate were recognized; and it was stated that the refund would have to be made in Ningpo drawbacks, but, though frequent application has been made, nothing has up to the present time been obtained.

The large losses of Messrs. Hogg, Brothers, arising from transactions in salt under Chinese Government supervision, have been a fruitful source of correspondence for upwards of two years, and though admitted by your Excellency to be a just claim, yet to this day nothing has been done by the Chinese Authorities at Hankow to enforce payment.

Local taxes in excess of Tariff duties.

Oppressive acts of this nature, injurious to trade and disastrous to individuals as they undoubtedly are, do not, however, form, in the opinion of your Memorialists, the most serious evil from which foreign interests in China suffer. Such flagrant violations of right must from their nature be of exceptional occurrence; and their influence upon the trade as a whole is small in comparison with that which results from the systematic exaction by the Chinese Authorities of duties largely in excess of those stipulated for in the Treaty.

Together with the present communication your Memorialists beg respectfully to forward to your Excellency a Chinese document, specifying the values upon which in the year 1860 the Chinese Authorities levied illegal taxes upon manufactured goods, between the warehouse of the foreign seller and the native shops in the foreign settlement. The values placed upon the various goods are something like the market rates of the period, so that in 1860 more than half as much again as the tariff duty was levied upon every kind of manufactured goods, and these taxes are in force to the present day. An idea of the magnitude of the taxation to which the foreign Import Trade is subjected, may be formed, when it is borne in mind that this is but the beginning of a system of "squeezing" which follows every bale of our manufactures on its way into the interior.

Illegal exactions in the interior.

Notwithstanding the payment by the foreign merchant to the Customs of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. as transit dues, his goods are so heavily taxed at the various inland barriers, that, according to reliable authorities, it is impossible for a single bale of foreign manufactures to penetrate 100 miles into the interior of the country. A piece of shirtings costing 2 taels 7 mace, or 16*s.* 2*d.*, in Shanghae, cannot be laid down in Soochow, only eighty miles distant, at less than 3 taels 6 candarines, or 18*s.* 4*d.*; showing an inland charge of 3 mace 6 candarines, or 2*s.* 2*d.* The extent of the imposts laid upon it on its way may be conjectured when it is borne in mind that 5 candarines, or $3\frac{1}{2}d.$, is on an average sufficient to pay all charges of freight, insurance, &c., upon a piece of shirtings conveyed by foreign steamer to Hankow, a distance of 600 miles.

Similar imposts are placed upon export produce on its way down from the interior; and every effort is made by the Chinese officials to prevent the possibility of foreigners making purchases up country. For instance, we call your Excellency's attention to the Appendixes; and to show the extent of the internal dues upon native produce, it is only necessary to refer to the Report upon Trade for the past year by the Commissioner of Customs for Shanghae, who states the levy on silk to be 30 taels per picul, equal to three times the amount of the export duty.

In this manner the spread of foreign trade in China is effectually prevented by the local officials. A handsome Customs revenue collected by the assistance of foreigners themselves at the Treaty Ports proves insufficient to secure the freedom of trade in the country. On the contrary, the restrictions placed upon the movement of foreigners, and more especially the imposts laid upon foreign manufactures, are such as entirely to restrict business to the Treaty Ports, and what is of more importance as respects the development of our trade, to preclude the possibility of the consumption beyond a most confined area, of such foreign manufactured goods as the natives may take into the interior. Your Memorialists fully recognize that the Chinese have the right to tax their own subjects as they see fit, but would submit that right to be limited *quoad* foreign commerce, by the Treaty. Whatever doubts may exist as to the interpretation of some of its clauses, there can be no question that the Treaty of Tien-tsin was intended to enable us to send our manufactures for sale among the natives of this country upon payment of defined import and transit duties, and without further taxation or restriction; and it cannot but be a subject of the deepest regret that the meaning of the Treaty is evaded, and that the privileges which it was imagined would be secured by it are lost, through the unwillingness

or inability of the Imperial Government to prevent the local officials from acting in direct opposition to its clear terms and provisions.

Tonnage dues not applied as stipulated by Treaty.

Your Memorialists also beg respectfully to call to your Excellency's attention the manner in which the Imperial Customs have evaded the responsibilities of apportioning a part of the revenue to the protection of the trade upon which it is levied, by the erection of the necessary light-houses and beacons at the approaches to the Open Ports, as provided by Treaty. It is only within the last year that any steps have been taken towards the lighting of the entrance of the River Yangtsze, although the necessity for this step has been repeatedly brought to the notice of the Customs Authorities. The tonnage dues upon foreign shipping at this port amounted, during the year 1866, to 96,000 taels.

Suits between foreigners and Chinese not properly adjudicated.

Finally, the administration of justice in disputes between foreigners and Chinese urgently calls for the attention of the foreign Powers in the revision of the Treaty. The articles with regard to this important matter are completely a dead letter. The prevarications, delays, and excuses of the local authorities give defaulters ample time to escape, bribe or get rid of witnesses, destroy evidence, and make away with their property. Very seldom is anything recovered for the foreigner. At the minor ports it has become almost an impossibility to get back debts or stolen property, or even to have any punishment accorded to the delinquents. At Shanghae, a remedy—perhaps the true one—has been sought in the establishment of a mixed tribunal, but until that tribunal has far greater powers to carry out its decisions, and until the mode in which it is conducted be entirely changed, and some definite code of law and procedure introduced, it can be of very little use. The wealthier Chinese with whom we have dealings are all members of powerful guilds, who afford them protection and practical immunity in times of difficulty. Under the present system, at all the ports except Shanghae, a foreigner aggrieved by a Chinese applies to the Consul, who writes his complaint to the Chinese Authorities, but they have always one answer ready, "The case will be examined." There the matter virtually ends, for nothing is known of the real action taken by the native officials. Communications are sent in reply to the Consul, that "the investigation is not yet terminated," or that "strict orders have been issued;" but the plaintiff and defendant are not brought face to face. The charge is accepted entirely from the Consul's despatch; none of the foreigner's witnesses are summoned; no examination of the foreigners concerned is attempted by the Chinese, and the answer of the Chinese defendant is seldom if ever made known to the plaintiff. Such a course is manifestly unjust to all parties. It is in the nature of things that wrongful or false charges may be made against natives by foreigners, and that Chinese may make such false stories in defence as they think likely to relieve them of their responsibilities. Cases might be quoted from almost every Consulate in China in which justice has been entirely frustrated by the delays imposed by the officials or by the want of evidence, which the Mandarins never seem to require.

The Mixed Court.

At Shanghae, where a mixed Court has been for some years in operation, very little practical amelioration of this state of things has been obtained; and the absence of any known system of civil law among the Chinese makes it impossible for a foreigner dealing with a native to feel that he possesses remedies against ill faith, or security for the enforcement of contracts.

Summary of defects.

The above are the main points in which the working of the Treaty has been found defective; and your Memorialists trust that your Excellency will be pleased to direct the attention of Her Majesty's Government to their consideration. The matters requiring revision may be briefly classed under three headings. First, those of a purely political nature; secondly, those of an administrative nature; and finally, those of a judicial nature. Under the first category stand the questions of residence in the interior; under the second, those of transit exactions, and the application of the tonnage dues to the erection of lighthouses, &c.; and under the last stands the important matter of making provision for the administration of justice in disputes both as to Customs confiscations, and also as to contracts and mercantile engagements between foreigners and Chinese.

Suggestions of the Chamber.

Upon these various points your Memorialists beg respectfully to lay before your Excellency the views which they have formed after nearly eight years' experience of the working of the Treaty, and from careful observation of its nature.

Political. Residence in the interior.

With respect to residence in the interior, your Memorialists would observe that it seems almost beyond a question that unless this privilege be accorded, the force and bearing of the Treaty applicable to the freedom of trade from the arbitrary restrictions placed upon it, will be wholly lost. So long as we are confined to the Treaty ports, it is within the power of the Chinese officials to tax our trade to any extent they please; and experience has fully demonstrated that they will not hesitate to make use of this power.

The right of renting land and houses in the interior would pave the way to the

introduction of railways and the development of the mineral resources of China, and your Memorialists need scarcely refer to the important advantages to be derived by all interested in steam navigation from the efficient working of the coal fields of China. The recent discovery of coal mines near Chinkiang, in a particularly favourable position, gives a practical bearing to the question.

Should Her Majesty's Government not be of opinion that the Treaty will admit of residence in the interior, it is the earnest hope of your Memorialists that they may consider it advisable to negotiate for this privilege, or, at all events, for the right of residence within a fixed radius, of perhaps 200 miles from some or all of the Treaty ports.

Your Memorialists suggest that licences from the Consuls at the various Treaty ports should be issued, and regulations framed under which the foreigner in the interior would be liable not only for the payment of all personal taxation to which he, in common with his Chinese neighbours, may lawfully be subject, but also for his appearance at the licensing port on the summons of his Consul, to answer any charge which may be preferred against him.

Your Memorialists are not of opinion that the privilege would be at first numerously availed of, the necessary agents skilled in the language not being at hand; but they are impressed with the conviction that the residence of qualified foreign agents at the principal internal marts is the only means of deriving accurate information regarding the sources of supply, and the wants of consumption, without which no trade can be conducted on a sound basis.

Your Memorialists consider the presence of these agents in the interior, and the fixed commutation of local taxation known as the transit dues, to be the proper safeguards against the exhaustive and illegal levies which are sapping the foundations of profitable traffic, and promising to render nugatory all the advantages offered by the Treaty.

Inland navigation.

Closely allied to the privilege of residence in the interior in its bearing upon the progress of trade and the protection of traffic from arbitrary imposts, is the right to convey specie and merchandize in steam cargo boats up and down the navigable creeks connecting the country districts with the shipping ports, on which subject the Chamber of Commerce addressed your Excellency at length on the 25th July, 1866.

Two different questions confounded.

It is desirable to point out that two very distinct questions appear to have been confounded with regard to this matter. That of navigating the whole of the rivers in China with vessels bearing foreign flags has become mixed up with the minor one of a merchant being permitted to send into the interior small steam cargo boats for the purpose of transmitting his treasure and goods, or bringing down such produce as he may have purchased. The former question, viz., the right to navigate all the rivers and waters of China in large steamers, is one which your Memorialists are not prepared to open; but the latter, which applies only to the employment of small steam cargo boats, is of considerable importance.

The acquisition of the right has been advocated for the reasons that it is in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty, that it will substitute for an antiquated system of carriage, at once expensive and hazardous, a speedy, cheap, and safe mode of lighterage, and will afford a safeguard against illegal levies upon merchandize *in transitu*. The Chinese have opposed the innovation, on the grounds that classes of the population would be thrown out of employment, and that control over the foreign crews would be impracticable.

Your Memorialists need not expose the fallacy of the economical grounds on which opposition to the proposal is offered by the Chinese Government, or enter at length upon a consideration of the manifest benefits which would accrue no less to the interests of trade than to the amelioration of the condition of the Chinese people, from free communication between the coast and the interior; but with regard to the exercise of control over the proceedings of the boats and their crews, your Memorialists consider that all that would be necessary to secure the Chinese Government from evasion of their fiscal regulations, and the native population against lawless outrages, would be to apply to foreign craft the same system which is already in force with regard to native boats, viz., that the steamers should be registered at the Custom-house of the Treaty ports to which their owners may belong, and bonds taken from responsible sureties that the vessel shall be confined to legitimate traffic, and their crews be held promptly amenable to the jurisdiction of the Consular authorities. It may also be deemed desirable to make stipulations as to the capacity and build of the steamers which it will be lawful to employ.

Administrative.—Illegal local taxation.

Passing from political questions to those of an administrative nature, your Memorialists would respectfully urge upon your Excellency's consideration the urgent necessity for an Imperial declaration to prevent illegal local taxation and the exaction of dues upon foreign goods *in transitu*.

The levy of a single cash upon foreign manufactures in excess of the Treaty Dues,

ought, it appears to your Memorialists, to become the subject of prompt remonstrance on the part of the Consul and immediate demands for redress. Whatever may be said about the right of the Chinese to tax their own subjects, it cannot by any plausibility of argument be held that a Chinese official has the right to send his servants into a foreigner's warehouse in order to ascertain what goods have been sold by him, and to exact a fixed contribution from the purchasers in excess of the Tariff rates already paid. Your Memorialists beg to illustrate their views by putting the question of what would have been said, if, immediately after the conclusion of the Cobden Treaty with France, the French Government had proceeded to make a tax, not upon English goods, but upon those who traded in them—or what would have been thought if, in the British Parliament, a poll tax had been voted upon all persons who dealt in French wines? It is scarcely to be imagined that such ill-faith would have been tolerated, and yet it is what we are submitting to in China.

The Chinese officials are never at a loss for a plausible excuse to levy taxes of this nature. At one time it is a war, at another a famine, at a third a rebellion; and the most noticeable feature in the matter is that when once a tax of this kind has been imposed, it continues in force long after the cause of its being originally raised has ceased to exist, and when no excuse whatever can be found for its levy.

Chamber suggests that no local taxes in excess of Tariff be levied without express sanction of the Foreign Ministers.

Your Memorialists, therefore, suggest that, seeing the constant bad faith which the native authorities are guilty of, it would be desirable to stand strictly upon the Treaty rights with regard to duties, and insist that any taxes raised upon foreign goods, or upon those trading in foreign goods on account of their so trading, should be considered as a gross disregard of Treaty obligations on the part of the Chinese authorities, and the occasion of an urgent claim upon the Government.

Transit dues.

In respect to transit dues, your Memorialists are strongly in favour of the system which provides for a commutation of inland dues upon imports and exports; and upon careful consideration, are of opinion that a great advantage would be gained by making the Transit Duty of 2½ per cent., as leviable by Treaty, payable at the market in which export produce is bought or imports sold, in place of paying it as at present, into the foreign Customs. It is naturally a source of vexation to the local authorities that dues which, according to custom formerly came into their own coffers, should be now paid to the Provincial Exchequer subject to Imperial control; and it is also to be remembered that to a certain extent, this is an injustice to those officials who look to taxes upon the produce bought or goods sold in their districts as the means of raising their revenue. Under such circumstances a strong prejudice is naturally felt by them against foreign trade; and they are under temptation to impose taxes upon produce bought by foreigners; while in consequence of no other duty being levied on it in the district, they are able to do so without fear of popular discontent.

Chamber suggests they should be paid at places where goods are bought or sold.

If, however, the transit dues were paid, as they should be, to the local officials at the place where the transactions occur, the mandarins would welcome the foreigner and be inclined to foster his trade, seeing that it would contribute handsomely to their local revenue. All that would be necessary for carrying out this arrangement in the case of exports would be that the foreign merchants should be required to lodge at the Custom-house of the port of export a receipt from the Chinese official in the district where the goods had been bought, for the amount of transit dues payable by Treaty. In the case of imports a receipt could be handed to the agent in charge of the goods by the Revenue Authorities at the place where the cargo may be sold, and should be returned to the Customs office within a reasonable period.

Application of tonnage dues.

The arrangement of some more definite system for deciding upon the manner in which the tonnage dues should be devoted to the erection of light houses, &c., is a matter which also calls for attention. The provisions of the Treaty with respect to this are somewhat indefinite. Art. XXXII provides that—

"The Consuls and Superintendents of Customs shall consult together regarding the erection of buoys and lightships as occasion may require."

There being no definite statement of the manner in which a decision is to be arrived at, the results of these consultations have, up to the present, been both tardy and inadequate to meet the just requirements of trade. It would, therefore, be very desirable that some definite rules for arriving at decisions in this matter should be framed. It has practically been left entirely in the hands of the Chinese authorities; but it is evidently the spirit of the Treaty that foreigners should have some security for good faith being kept with regard to this matter.

Municipal.

It may not be out of place here for your Memorialists to point out that the clauses of the Treaty providing for the protection of the life and property of foreigners by the Chinese authorities is to a great extent a dead letter, as they do not contribute in any way to the

police expenses which have been found necessary for the maintenance of order at the larger ports. Your Memorialists are of opinion that, while in every way it is advisable to strengthen and foster the municipal institutions established under the land regulations, and to leave in the hands of the various Councils the duty of providing for the peace, good order, and government of the settlements, it is only just that the Chinese should be called upon to contribute to the police expenses of each port a per-centage on the taxes annually required to be raised.

Judicial.

Finally, your Memorialists would beg to urge in the strongest terms upon your Excellency's notice, the pressing necessity for a thorough reconsideration of the judicial clauses of the Treaty and the manner in which they have been interpreted.

Criminal suits and civil suits between foreigners and Chinese.

A reference to clauses XVI and XVII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin will show clearly that a misapprehension has influenced the interpretation of the provisions with regard to disputes between foreigners and Chinese subjects. Clauses XVI and XVII of the Tien-tsin Treaty run as follows :—

"XVI. Chinese subjects who may be guilty of any criminal act towards British subjects shall be arrested and punished by the Chinese authorities, according to the laws of China.

"British subjects who may commit any crime in China, shall be tried and punished by the Consul, or other public functionary authorized thereto, according to the laws of Great Britain.

"Justice shall be equitably and impartially administered on both sides.

"XVII. A British subject having reason to complain of a Chinese, must proceed to the Consulate and state his grievance. The Consul will inquire into the merits of the case, and do his utmost to arrange it amicably. In like manner, if a Chinese has reason to complain of a British subject, the Consul shall no less listen to his complaint, and endeavour to settle it in a friendly manner. If disputes take places of such a nature that the Consul cannot arrange them amicably, then he shall request the assistance of the Chinese authorities that they may together examine into the merits of the case, and decide it equitably."

Distinction drawn by the Treaty.

In these two clauses the distinction between criminal and civil suits is very carefully observed. The former being in reference to offences against the State, and in case of natives, against the Emperor of China, independent jurisdiction is recognised in such cases as belonging to the Chinese officials. In the latter, a different position is taken. Such cases are not of the nature of personal charges against a Chinaman when he happens to be the defendant ; but of disputes between two parties, and the property, or money in dispute, cannot, until the matter is decided, be held to belong either to the one party or the other. A manifest injustice is, therefore, done to the foreigner if, whenever he brings a suit against a native of China, he is dependent only upon the doubtfulness and corruption of the native mode of arranging such matters. The Chinese have no known code of civil law, and it is impossible for a foreign merchant to become acquainted with the security afforded by the Chinese Courts for the fulfilment of native contracts. On the other hand the Chinaman has the full benefit of European law. When a foreigner fails to fulfil his engagements, the native has only to enter a plaint against him in the Court or Consulate to which he may be subject, and substantial justice is obtained.

It is observable that at the minor ports the spirit of Article XVII is more closely observed than in Shanghae where a Mixed Court has been established. In the ports where such an institution does not yet exist, the Consul investigates the charge, and sends his decision to the native authorities with a request that it may be enforced. Of the defects in this system your Memorialists have already spoken. Those defects it was hoped the establishment of a Mixed Court would in a great measure remove ; but while this step secured the advantage of bringing plaintiff and defendant face to face, it is doubtful whether more harm than good has not resulted from the abandonment in that tribunal of much, if not all, of the right of joint jurisdiction, which it is the obvious aim of the Treaty clauses to secure. The theory of jurisdiction in the Mixed Court in civil suits is that Chinese law is the basis upon which the suit is to be decided ; and injustice is frequently done to a foreign merchant by some so-called law or custom, being quoted against him of which he could by no possibility have cognizance.

No Chinese Commercial Law known.

Attempts have been made to discover some of the general principles of Chinese commercial law ; but they have resulted in complete failure, it having become at each new stage of the investigation more evident that nothing which can be dignified by the name of civil code exists in China ; disputes being for the most part settled by reference to the Guilds or by other arbitration, the Chinese magistrates being only looked to to enforce the decision so arrived at. It is needless to point out how foreign interests are likely to be respected by Trading Guilds, deeply concerned in opposing them in every way.

Thus, in the opinion of your Memorialists, it is essential to the proper conduct of

trade that a more stringent interpretation than that hitherto adopted, should be put upon Clause XVII of the Tien-tsin Treaty. It cannot be reasonably expected that the Chinese will abandon the right to be parties to all judicial proceedings in which native interests are involved. Even if they could be induced to do so, the necessity of calling upon them to enforce the decisions of the Consuls would call for their co-operation.

But it appears evident from the reading of the Treaty, that a joint tribunal, basing its decisions upon the broad principles of justice, was in contemplation when the Instrument was framed, and not a Court, which, being guided by so-called Chinese law, leaves the decision entirely with the Chinese magistrate, and does not afford scope for the exercise on the part of the foreign assessor, of that authoritative action by which alone we can hope to obtain justice.

Your Memorialists are of opinion that, in the adjudication of suits wherein Chinese subjects are defendants and foreigners plaintiffs, the Court shall be composed of the Consul or his qualified deputy and native officials of equal rank, having co-equal and concurrent jurisdiction. At the minor ports, where no rules of procedure have been framed, it is desirable provision should be made that the local Authorities shall, on the requisition of the Consul, appoint a time for the hearing of the plaint not later than six days after the receipt of the notice, when the Consul, together with a Chinese Magistrate, shall hold a Court for the investigation of the facts, and a decision upon the suit at which the plaintiff and defendant shall be present, and the attendance of witnesses compelled. At Shanghae, and any other important place where it may be found necessary to hold sittings at regular intervals, your Memorialists suggest that the Mixed jurisdiction should be separated into inferior and superior Courts. The Mixed Court originally designed as a mere Police Court has proved itself to be entirely unfitted for the adjudication of civil suits of any importance. In attempting to decide them it has departed from its proper sphere, and the results have been shown in much discontent and many contradictory judgments.

Your Memorialists, therefore, propose that the Mixed Court, consisting of a junior native Magistrate, in conjunction with a Consular assistant, should take charge of police cases and civil causes, involving sums not exceeding 200 taels. That a higher Court, consisting of a native Officer especially deputed, should be charged, in conjunction with a Consular Officer of not lower rank than Vice-Consul, or Acting Vice-Consul, with the adjudication of suits for sums exceeding 200 taels and not exceeding 3,000 taels, —a right of appeal to stand to a superior Court, to be comprised of the Taotai, or other native official of similar authority, and the Consul or Acting Consul. This Court to have cognizance of all cases involving claims exceeding 3,000 taels, and appeals from its decisions to be made to the Minister and high Authorities at Peking. In all cases the Courts should have power to enforce their decisions, which, being duly recorded, would speedily form themselves into a code of law applicable to the settlement of all disputes likely to arise in the conduct of mercantile transactions.

Decisions as to Customs confiscations.

There is also great need of a more efficient system for the protection of foreign interests in cases of Customs confiscations and fines. The instances recorded in correspondence between your Excellency's predecessor and the Chamber of Commerce testify to the injustice which has too frequently been suffered upon this score, and the desirability of measures being adopted to avoid their recurrence.

Mr. Wade's Rules defective in two points.

The Rules framed by Mr. Wade when Chargé d'Affaires, in conjunction with the Chinese authorities, are defective in more than one essential point. They provide for a species of Mixed Court in which the Chinese Superintendent of Trade is to be sole judge, though the Consul is to be invited to take his seat with him. In the event of the Consul differing in opinion with the Chinese Superintendent of Trade, the matter is to be referred to Pekin. The subordinate position thus to be assumed by the Consul appears, in the humble judgment of your Memorialists, to be a noticeable retrogression from the terms of the Treaty of Nankin, which is confirmed and embodied in that of Tien-tsin. The Nankin Treaty (Article II) provides that "the Consul shall see that the just duties, &c., are discharged," and from this it would appear that at all events in such cases as do not contain *prima facie* evidence of fraud, such as, in fact, could be without question considered to be within the meaning of the word "smuggling" as used in Article XLVIII of the Tien-tsin Treaty, the Consul has the right to intervene with the Chinese authorities; and hence the invitation to him merely to attend an investigation is a virtual denial of a wholesome power already delegated to him.

The subordinate position of the Consul.

There being no appeal when the Consul and Chinese officer agree.

A great defect, moreover, in the Regulations agreed to by Mr. Wade consists in the provision that in the event of the Consul agreeing with the decision of the Chinese Superintendent of Trade, the decision is final.

Legal opinions.

Your Memorialists are informed that two of the best legal authorities in England, namely, Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Sir James Atherton, being called upon to advise upon the

question of confiscations and fines by the Chinese Government, have, in conjunction with very able associates, recognized the right to confiscation as belonging to the Chinese, it being among the rights of sovereignty of the Chinese Government, which have not been given up by Treaty.

Distinction between confiscations and fines.

It is noticeable, however, that Sir James Atherton draws a very important distinction between confiscations and fines. The former, he regards as against the thing, the latter against the person; a fine being of the nature of a penalty inflicted for a crime, and its ultimate mode of enforcement being by seizure of the person. In the case, therefore, of fines being inflicted, Sir James Atherton recognizes British subjects as being under the protection of the exterrioriality as provided in clause XVI of the Tien-tsin Treaty, and holds that in such cases, the Chinese authorities are bound to refer the matter to the Consul for his adjudication.

Chamber suggests confiscations should only be made as tangible security for fines.

This being the case, your Memorialists suggest that great advantage would result to the interests of trade by provision being made that the Chinese officials should in all cases effect a seizure merely with the object of obtaining tangible security for the payment of such just fine as may be inflicted by the Consul or Court of the foreigner concerned. It is unreasonable, seeing the irresponsible power of provincial authorities, that they should be permitted to confiscate the property of a foreign subject upon mere suspicion of smuggling, or to inflict a punishment, no matter of what magnitude, in the event of an attempted evasion of the Revenue laws being proved. Numerous instances could be cited to show that confiscations have been made and heavy fines imposed for simple breaches of the letter of the Customs Regulations, involving neither the possibility of fraud nor the loss of revenue. It is noticeable that in the Treaty between France and China it is stipulated in Article VII that in the event of a seizure of a vessel in a non-Treaty port the French Consul at the nearest port must be communicated with before either seizure or confiscation can be pronounced legal, and by the Prussian Treaty no fine or confiscation can be enforced without the consent of the Consul.

Chamber suggests that the Superintendent of Trade periodically visit the ports.

In reference to the numerous questions and disputes with the Chinese Authorities, which from time to time arise at the various ports, your Memorialists desire to draw attention to the infinite advantages which wonld attend the more frequent presence of the Superintendent of Trade at the chief centres of foreign commerce, and respectfully to suggest that an annual visitation should be made. Your Memorialists may instance in support of their views in this respect the benefits derived from the recent visit of your Excellency to this place, when many questions of general interest, on which much misconception prevailed, were set at rest, and one serious dispute with the Chinese Authorities connected with an important branch of trade, which had been agitated for years, was promptly settled. In fact, it cannot be otherwise than an undoubted advantage for the Superintendent of Trade to become personally acquainted with the wants of the commerce he is appointed to supervise.

Resumé.

To summarise the few remarks which your Memorialists have had the honour to submit to your Excellency, it would appear that the Treaty of Tien-tsin is in the main fitted to the object for which it was designed, if carried to its legitimate conclusions, that is, to conclusions in accordance with the spirit in which it was framed, and the principles upon which it is based; and any revision sought for should be directed not so much to the acquisition of new privileges as to a confirmation and extension of those already granted. As the Treaty has been interpreted, the slightest infraction of its provisions on the part of foreigners is immediately punished by the power and authority of the Government to which the offender belongs; but demands against the Chinese Government for the redress of injuries sustained by foreigners appear to be regarded rather with reference to political than judicial considerations, the maintenance of the dignity and *prestige* of the Chinese Government seeming to weigh more with the Foreign Authorities than the spirit of the Treaty or the claims of justice. Thus, up to the present time, the Treaty has failed, not from its nature, but from its interpretation; not from defects inherent in its provisions, but from the mode in which those provisions have been carried out. To open China to foreign commerce is clearly not the work of a day. A Treaty, however ably drawn up, is obviously insufficient to clear a way through time honoured obstructions, and to substitute for an antiquated *régime* of protection and monopoly, a system embodying the true principles of free trade and progress. The labour of doing this was wisely left in the hands of the Plenipotentiaries and Superintendents of Trade at Pekin. To them was delegated the duty of seeing that the principles enunciated in the Treaty should become embodied in action; that any attempts on the part of the Chinese Government to evade its stipulations should be speedily checked; that subtle arguments for curtailing its privileges should be rebutted; that illegal levies should be suppressed; that the securities for the administration of justice should be held with a tight hand.

So far as this duty has been performed the Treaty has succeeded; so far as it has been omitted the Treaty has failed; and fail it will, whatever its terms, if the privileges granted by it be not scrupulously and vigilantly protected against the constant opposition of a Government as subtle in design as unscrupulous in action. But if the principles and objects of the Treaty be watched and guarded, your Memorialists can see no reason to doubt that it will prove all that is wanted for the advancement of commerce, by bringing into closer contact with one another the European and native producers and consumers, no less to the benefit of the Chinese people than to the development of foreign trade.

The Tariff.

In the Tariff of Duties your Memorialists do not consider that important alterations are called for. Serious disturbances of the value of some staple articles of import and export have occurred since the Tariff was framed, under the influence of exceptional conditions, which are fast passing away, and prices generally are settling down upon the basis arranged in 1860. Thus cotton goods are rapidly declining to their normal value, temporarily enhanced by the American war; and the production of silk, which, at one time, seemed threatened with extinction consequent upon the rebellion, is now recovering its former position. With regard to tea, your Memorialists feel that the only ground on which they can put forward a claim to a modification of the duty, is the general principle that any measure which tends to lessen the cost of an article of necessity confers a boon upon the world at large, and they doubt not your Excellency will endeavour to effect any reduction which may be politically expedient.

The few articles on which alteration of the duty seems desirable are the following :—

Tea Dust—is charged with a duty almost prohibitory of its export and utterly out of proportion to its cost, which is about 5 taels per picul, so that an impost of 3 mace per picul would be ample to charge upon it.

Black and White Pepper—are taxed too heavily, and a duty of 2 mace per picul on the former and 4 mace on the latter would appear to be sufficient.

Watches.—A 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty would be fairer than the present system.

Tin Plates.—A reduction of duty to 2 mace is desirable, the present rate being excessive.

Timber.—There is no properly defined method of charging the duty on the various kinds of timber which are imported. The attempt to classify certain spars and charge fixed duties is found in practice to be very unfair. It is suggested, therefore, that, on the subject of timber duties, a Conference should be held between Her Majesty's Consul, assisted by the Chamber of Commerce, and the Commissioner of Customs, to arrange an equitable Tariff on the basis of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duty.

Coals.—It would be a great boon if the importation were entirely free as formerly. The loss to the Chinese revenue would be trifling, and almost the whole of the coal imported is for foreign use, either by steamer or manufactories. It is not on the ground alone of the actual tax, which is sufficiently small, that the exemption from duty is urged, but because the collection is vexatious, often causing delay to vessels, by interfering with steamers coaling at any moment required.

The question, however, is intimately bound up with that of the duty to be levied upon native coal, and, as your Memorialists trust that your Excellency's influence will be used to promote the opening of the Chinese coalfields and the efficient working of them under foreign superintendence or by foreign capital, they leave the matter for your Excellency's consideration.

Salt.—This article is, according to the Treaty, prohibited, but it would appear to your Memorialists that a very large and important trade could be inaugurated in salt between China and Great Britain, without in any way interfering with the Chinese Government monopoly. The salt imported could be sold to the Government in the same manner as the native salt, and the collection of the duty would not in any way be impeded; a plan referred to in the Appendix as extracted from a local newspaper suggests, probably the best mode by which its importation may be commenced without alarming the susceptibilities of the Chinese in regard to this Government monopoly.

Rice.—Your Memorialists are of opinion that foreign rice should be allowed to be exported free of duty. It not unfrequently happens that when there is a surplus on the China Markets, the article might be re-exported to advantage to neighbouring countries. This was the case two years ago, when there was a quantity of rice in Shanghae that might have been re-exported to Japan, but for the export duty of 1 mace per picul. The Chinese prohibition against the export of rice, it is needless to mention, is designed only against shipping off the produce of the country and does not apply to foreign cargo.

Drawbacks.—Connected with the Tariff is the subject of drawbacks for duties on re-exports. The present method with regard to these is fraught with great injustice.

Drawbacks, provided the goods re-exported have not been imported for a period longer than twelve months, and not otherwise, are granted by certificates available for the payment of duties.

It appears to be only just that on a re-exportation of of foreign goods, the duty should be repaid, as received, in Sycee, but the present mode makes it incumbent upon the holder of certificates to buy produce or to import goods in order to turn them into cash, an alternative of particular hardship to any person engaged in intermitting trading operations.

The Chinese Government having the use of the money while the goods remain in this country can offer no good reason for throwing difficulties in the way of its repayment on their re-exportation. The question as to the period of time during which duty on re-exportation will not be allowed is not an unimportant one. The taste of the Chinese people with regard to assortments of fancy goods is constantly changing, and frequent rebellions in the country throw classes of manufactures, which are consumed in particular districts, out of use. The consequence is, that stocks of unsaleable goods are often to be met with which have been in the country upwards of a year, the loss on which by re-export is seriously aggravated by the duty charge.

It appears to your Memorialists that not only no limitation should be placed upon the time during which the duty will be returned, but that the drawback also should be paid in cash, and they trust that your Excellency will support their views.

The privilege of considering the ports of Japan and Hong Kong within the limits of coasting voyages having been granted by the Chinese, it is suggested that a clause to confirm the right should be embodied in the Treaty.

Articles imported for Foreign use only, Stores, &c.—It is obviously the intention of Rule 2 of the Customs Tariff to exempt from duty all articles imported for the sole use of foreigners, but latterly duties have been levied on articles which, though not specially mentioned, appear to be entitled to the privilege by the spirit of the rule.

Your Memorialists trust that your Excellency will seek to obtain a general exemption from duty, for all articles specially imported for foreign use; and may urge in support of their claim, the excessive cost of living at the Treaty ports; while the enormous duties derived by the Chinese Government from foreign trade may fairly be used as an argument for the continuance of the privilege.

(Signed) GEORGE TYSON.
JAMES HOGG.
ROBT. I. FEARON.
W. J. BRYANS.
EGBERT IVESON.
WM. PROBST.
M. S. GUBBAY.
F. BORNTRAEGER.
E. F. DUNCANSON.
ALEX. TURING.
Members of Special Committee.

Appendix (A).

Values upon which a Duty of 3 per cent. is levied on Foreign Goods between the Sellers' Godown and Chinese Shops in the Settlement.

		Tls.	m.			Tls.	m.
Grey shirtings	Per piece	1	85	Chintz	Per piece	1	50
White „	„	1	95	Damasks	„	4	00
T-cloths	„	1	30	Muslins	„	1	20
American drills	„	2	80	Dimities	„	1	50
„ jeans	„	2	80	T. R. cambrics	„	2	40
English drills	„	2	90	Medium cloths	„	20	00
Handkerchiefs	Per doz.	0	50	Spanish stripes	„	20	00
White spots	Per piece	1	80	Camlets	„	18	00
Dyed spots	„	2	40	Long ells	„	6	00
White brocades	„	2	40	Lastings	„	12	00
Dyed „	„	3	00	Figured Orleans	„	5	00
Velvets	„	5	00				

N.B.—The existence of these exactions is mentioned in Mr. Fitzroy's Report upon the Trade for 1866, but he states the Imperial Customs Office are in no way responsible for them.

Appendix (B).

Messrs. Little and Co.'s Teas.

(From the "Shanghae Recorder.")

A parcel of teas, for which a Transit certificate had been issued at the Consulate to Messrs. Little and Co., was, on its way from the Chekiang province to this, detained at the Shanghae barrier, the Consular transit pass being entirely ignored, notwithstanding that it bore the seal of the Taotai. On reference to the head Customs authorities at the district capital, Messrs. Little and Co's Agent was told that he must enter the teas in his own individual name as Chinese produce, or they would not be allowed to pass. By Treaty the Transit tax on foreign owned produce is fixed at 1 tael 25 mace per picul, or one half the Tariff rate for Export Duty, but the native tax at this barrier alone amounted to more than double this sum. After some days' delay caused by reference to the chief provincial Customs, the Agent paid the tax demanded, receiving the usual vouchers. On arriving at the Namtow Customs a further tax of 4 mace per picul was demanded. Here all former vouchers have to be given up; but meanwhile Messrs. Little and Co. succeeded through the vigorous remonstrances of Mr. Consul Winchester with the Chinese Superintendent of Trade, in obtaining a release of the Teas and an undertaking from the Taotai to refund the excess of duty illegally collected.

Appendix (C).

Mr. Major's Cocoon Establishment.

(From the "Shanghae Recorder.")

Mr. Major, a gentleman well known for the improvements he introduced into the filature of Silks in Italy, formerly contemplated carrying out a similar enterprise in China, up the country; but when the reading of the Treaty became known, he was forced to confine his operations to Shanghae. He recently proceeded up the country to a spot about 20 miles from Kahing, for the purpose of making arrangements to purchase cocoons. From experience he had found that there was great difficulty in inducing the Chinese to lend houses for conducting the process of killing the insects, as this had to be done by heating in ovens and was not unattended by risk from fire. The Chinese, therefore, systematically refused to lease houses for the purpose, unless a guarantee were given to them against fire to an extent much greater than the value of the premises, and having procured this, they more than once set fire to the buildings for the purpose of obtaining the money. Mr. Major accordingly contemplated conducting this operation in an iron house which his Chinese Compradore was to take steps to have erected. The Chinamen obtained the necessary permission from the local authorities and the building of the house commenced. When it was half completed, however, some petty officials came to the scene of action in a mandarin boat, and stated that the work could not be proceeded with; at the same time hinting at bribes. These, however, not being forthcoming, they persisted in their orders that the buildings should be taken down, and the demand was accordingly complied with. A request was, however, made that the ovens should be allowed to stop, but this was also refused; and in the course of the parleys with reference to it the Chinaman in Mr. Major's employ, foolishly went on board the Mandarin boat; when the anchor was immediately heaved up and the vessel made off. After some difficulty the Mandarin junk was caught up, and the Chinaman released. Mr. Major then insisted upon the authority under which the officials acted, being shown to him, when it appeared that it only instructed them to order the house to be taken down and in the event of their instructions not being complied with, to report to their superior official, and did not in any way authorise them to arrest the Chinaman. They then attempted to obtain possession of the paper granting authority for the erection of the house; but this was naturally refused them; and, armed with this document, Mr. Major has returned to Shanghae, and has, we believe, made a complaint with regard to the matter to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul. There is good reason to conclude that the opposition was instigated by the Chinese dealers in cocoons, who saw in the contemplated operations a competition in their trade, and it appears wrote a letter to the native authorities on the subject.

Appendix (D).

Referred to in Tariff under the head of Salt.

(From the "North China Daily News.")

While the Austrian Government continues to monopolise the trade in tobacco and in salt, and the Russian that in alcohol, sufficient enlightenment can hardly be expected at Peking to prompt the spontaneous abandonment of so lucrative a monopoly as salt. But it may be worth while endeavouring to persuade the Chinese Government that the import of foreign salt does not necessarily imply loss of the large revenue now derived from the native article. On the contrary, if any parallel may be drawn between the consumption per head in China and other countries, so great a demand would follow a reduction in price, that an equal revenue might be realised from a much smaller duty. The consumption of salt in England is, we believe, estimated at 15 lbs. per man. To multiply this amount by the population of China is to travel into the regions of romance; but the contemplation of vast quantities on paper is at least a harmless amusement. Taking then the population at 300,000,000, we arrive at a consumption of 4,500,000,000 lbs., or about 2,000,000 tons per annum, which might be taxed a hundred per cent. *ad valorem*—yielding a revenue of 6,000,000*l.* per annum,—and yet sold at half the price to which the native article is raised under the present system. To be more practical, however, we may take the case of India, into which about 200,000 tons are annually imported—a fact which does not prevent salt yielding a revenue of 3,000,000 lbs. annually to the Government. It is only necessary to add that English salt could be laid down in China for about 3*l.* a ton—the price of a few piculs of native—to show how great a subversion its introduction would effect in the trade, and how great a boon would be conferred on the population. The very change involved, however, would prove the greatest obstacle in dealing with a people so wedded to established custom. The proposition to abandon a certain revenue, and to demolish a whole system of taxation, on the faith of how good results soever from the change, would strike the most enlightened of the Imperial Councillors aghast. But though it is unlikely that the Government will abandon the monopoly, it may be possible to persuade them to permit the import of foreign salt into bonded warehouses, thence to be doled out, as at present, at an enormous profit. A great step will be gained if we can once get foreign salt, on whatever footing, into this country. Time would do the remainder. The Chinese, knowing that it cost only 3*l.* to 4*l.* a ton, would not be content to continue paying 8*l.* or 10*l.* A resting place, however minute, for the lever has been gained in the recognition of the private salt factories in the islands of the Chusan group. It rests with foreigners to widen the slight breach in the barrier of monopoly which has been wrought. Some idea of the oppressive nature of the present system of taxation may be formed, from the fact that salt, costing 24 cash per catty on the banks of the Hangchow river, cost 50 to 60 cash by the time it reaches Fychow—or somewhere about 20*l.* sterling per ton. Of course these enormous duties lead to smuggling on every available opportunity. But the theory exemplified in the penny post—that low duties, by promotiong consumption, raise an equal revenue with higher taxes which check it—is of so recent date that we cannot be surprised if the Chinese refuse implicit credence in its truth. We can only hope to insert the thin edge of the wedge, and leave experience to undermine still further the prohibitve policy of which we have now recognised the fallacy. A greater boon than the introduction of foreign salt could hardly be conferred on the Chinese, seeing how largely salted provisions enter into their daily food. And it is but fair to surmise that a large profit must accrue to the foreign importer. It is only necessary to contrast the selling price of the coarsely made private salt in China, with that at which a fine quality is obtainable in England, to appreciate the vast field for trade that would be opened up, if the Chinese could be persuaded to withdraw the existing ban. While the former costs, in Shanghae, 35 to 40 cash—about 1½*d.* per lb.,—more than five times this quantity of the finest salt is sold at home for a penny; and this again is about three times the original cost at which it can be purchased from the pits. But, as we said before, in this very difference lies an element of difficulty.

FOO-CHOW.

Memorial from Mercantile Community at Foochow.

Foochow, September 14, 1867.

To his Excellency Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Superintendent of Trade in China, &c., &c., &c.

Sir,

HAVING been appointed by the Foo-chow Community, at a meeting held at the requisition of Her Majesty's Consul at this port, to consider the alterations expedient to be adopted in the contemplated revision of the Treaty; and the following resolution having been passed at a subsequent meeting of the Community, held on the 9th of September:—

"That the suggestions of the Committee, as passed at this meeting, be embodied in a Memorial to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, and forwarded through the British Consul at this port."

We beg respectfully, in the name of the Foo-chow community, to lay the following Memorial before your Excellency, and trust that it will receive your favourable consideration.

Article XXVIII. Transit duties on goods to be adjusted.

By far the most important grievance, under the Treaty of Tien-tsin, has been the systematic breach of the XXVIIIth Article of the Treaty, regarding the Lekin duties. This evasion we believe to have been practised at all the Treaty ports; but in the province of Fuhkien, the illegal exactions which have been added to the already too oppressive legal impost, have far exceeded the demands made in other parts of the Empire. And severely as these exactions have been felt in Amoy, they have been even more oppressive in Foo-chow.

A short time ago the import trade came to a complete stand-still on account of the exorbitance of these imposts; and finding that the taxes were, in consequence, becoming unproductive, the authorities found themselves compelled to reduce them about 20 per cent.

The trade in manufactures is almost confined to the immediate neighbourhood of the city; the increased taxation, as the goods go inland, rendering it unprofitable to take them further up country. And, indeed, goods fram Kew-kiang and Ningpo compete favourably in the upper part of this province, with those taken up from Foo-chow.

Opium, not being subject to Treaty regulation after it is once sold by the foreigner, is of course exposed unchecked to the caprices of the local authorities; and as an illustration of the oppressiveness of taxation imposed under such circumstances, and its great excess in this province as compared with others, we may mention a case that has come t our knowledge, of opium sold at Shau-wu-foo, which from Foo-chow paid 130 taels; while opium brought from Swatow paid only 30 taels per chest.

The clause of the Treaty providing transit passes on goods to the interior, is quite inoperative on all goods (with the exception of lead), the Chinese stating, that if provided with a Transit pass, they are mulcted quite as much as if they were without one.

Lead, however, is always taken up to the place of consumption under a Treaty pass; as it is used for the making of tea chests; and by a class of men who, through their connection with foreigners, are usually able to obtain tardy redress for attempted illegalities.

Tea has also benefited by the Treaty regulations, although the Transit passes are but little used. But when issued to foreigners, if any illegal exactions were attempted, the prompt and energetic interference of the Consul and the foreign Custom-house authorities, invariably obtained redress, although after many evasions and delays. This has imposed a salutary check on any attempt to increase the tax on native owned produce.

Suggestion.

We would suggest the following alterations in the Treaty; and we think that anything short of these suggestions, will fail to grapple effectually with the crying evils that are involved in the present system:—

1. That the Lekin duty on all goods, whether native or foreign, should be equalized at all the ports, at the rate of half the import or export duty on such goods.

2. That while the local authorities collect these duties themselves, there shall be an appeal to the Consul and the Commissioner of Customs, for any irregularity committed in such collection.

Limit of the Port.

In connection with the Lekin, it would be highly important that the limits of the port should be defined. This would appear to be a local question; but as it has, for the last nine years, been a great grievance in this place, we think it assumes an importance

requiring the interference of the higher authorities. It is not the limit of the port as regards shipping, or the importing and exporting of goods, for the settling of which there is provision made through the foreign Custom-house authorities. But what is the limit of the port where the Lekin or inland taxation commences?

Surely it seems unreasonable that the inland tax should be levied on goods consumed in Foo-chow itself, yet such is the case.

We would suggest that no Lekin be levied on goods consumed at the place of import, which in Foo-chow would be in the two district magistracies, between which the city is divided. — Suggestion.

The principle upon which the Tariff duties were calculated in the Treaty of 1842, was that they should approximate as nearly as possible to an *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent.; and this principle was confirmed in the Treaty of Tient-sin, and the Tariff, in general, was modified accordingly. But in the two principal articles of export, the burden weighs most heavily on our staple. While silk now pays a duty of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and even when prices were low, never paid 5 per cent., tea is charged with a duty of 2 taels 5 mace, being about 10 per cent. on the average cost; and now that the trade has so largely increased, the Chinese Government can well afford to reduce the duty. — Article XXVI. British Tariff of 1842 to be revised at Shanghae.

We trust, therefore, that in the revision of the Treaty, the boon of a reduction in the duty, so clearly in keeping with the intention of the Treaty, will be accorded to us. — Suggestion.

This Article, as regards the port of Foo-chow, has so far proved entirely inoperative. Through the exertions and influence of the enlightened Commissioner of the Foreign Customs, we understand that money has been at last granted, and that a lighthouse, &c., will be erected as speedily as possible; but as we have been nine years without anything being done, and as much still remains to be done, throughout the length and breadth of the Coast of China, we do not think we are out of place in calling attention to the neglect of this important point, or in urging its stringent enforcement. — Article XXXII. Facilities to assist in entering port.

There is one point connected with this subject, of a purely local character, but which is very suggestive of a means of inducing more activity in such matters by the authorities.

The River Min, at and above the anchorage, is filling up in a manner to form a most serious inconvenience to the navigation, and urgently calls for scientific measures being promptly taken. We would suggest, that if the talent of foreign engineers were available to advise the native authorities, a certain weight and influence would necessarily be accorded to their opinions; and some pressure could be put upon the authorities to carry out their suggestions. — Suggestion.

Hitherto the 9th Article has been interpreted with great stringency. Indeed so much so, that, practically, the allowance to travel, for purposes of business, has been a dead letter. At the time of the conclusion of the last Treaty, when the empire was so shaken by intestine disorder, it was, doubtless, imperative to repress with a firm hand the illicit trading then so prevalent, and for this purpose a very rigid interpretation of these clauses was perhaps necessary; but a very different state of matters now obtains, and we are sure your Excellency will not suppose us desirous of re-introducing anything like the old system. But we think the time has come for a more liberal policy. — Article IX. Travel into the interior with passports. Article X. The Yangtsze River to be open to British trade. Article XLVII. British vessels to trade only at open ports.

We would suggest that foreigners should now be permitted to travel for business purposes, and should have liberty to rent houses and ground in the interior (without which the former right would be useless), and that assistance should be accorded to them, instead of impediments thrown in their way; while the British Consul would always have the power of withholding a passport, if he were not satisfied with the propriety of granting it, in the particular case. — Article IX. Suggestions.

This Article does not affect Foo-chow, but we may suggest that steamers on the Yangtsze might now be permitted to carry passengers and goods, for all places on the river, as far as Hankow. — Article X. Suggestions.

This is a difficult Article to deal with, no doubt; but as we are convinced that it is only by some well considered plan, capable of general application, that any great advance can be attained in further opening up this great empire to foreign trade and civilization, we venture to make the following suggestion :— — Article XLVII.

That vessels should be allowed to trade wherever they please along the coast, under Custom-house permission and regulations, as has been allowed occasionally in Formosa. The vessel declaring her intended voyage at the Treaty port from which she starts, and giving a full report of her cargo before starting, and also on her return to the same, or the next other Treaty port at which she calls. — Suggestion.

We would most strongly deprecate the opening of one or two more Treaty ports, with settlements and concessions, as entailing considerable expense on the Governments of both China and Great Britain, without any commensurate advantages; and unless the suggestion above, or some similar plan of opening up the coast generally, without entailing

the necessity of expensive establishments, can be adopted, we would much prefer that matters should remain as they are, for another period of ten years.

Suggestion regarding goods for use in docks.

We think an additional Article should be inserted in the Treaty, allowing the importation (free of duty) of all goods landed in the Docks in China, for the repair of vessels.

Suggestion regarding coast duties.

We think, also, that the coast duties, both native and foreign, between two Chinese ports should be abolished altogether; and as the Chinese Government are now in receipt of a large revenue, they may perhaps be induced to give way on this point, which is so clearly for the benefit of their country.

Suggestion, working mines by foreigners.

In consideration of the great demand for coal for mercantile purposes, with the prospect of an equal, if not a greater number of steamers running upon the coast and rivers of this country, we are of opinion that every inducement ought to be held out to foreigners, to bore for coal or any other mineral, under the direct sanction of their nearest Consular authorities.

The popular dread of the "Fung-Shui" which has hitherto interfered with such improvements, could, we think, be overcome, if the high authorities, who should now be too enlightened to be carried away by such unreasoning prejudices, would exert their great influence in persuading the people of the futility of their objections: and if the Government once perceived the amount of revenue that might be derived from the proposed charge, and if the people are convinced of the advantages to be derived by them from the enormous increase in the demand for their labour, we think we should hear no more objections on this score.

The saving between the English and Chinese systems of obtaining coal, would, we are convinced, make all the difference to many Steam Companies, of paying a good dividend and sinking money.

Suggestion. Making of roads.

The claim of a foreign community upon the Chinese Government, to construct roads for its pleasure, and healthful recreation, may by many persons be looked upon as a secondary consideration; but in the altered state of trade, and the prospect of a large number of foreigners spending years in the country, it becomes an important question, whether the local authorities could not, at a trifling expense to themselves (but what would be a ruinous outlay to foreigners, owing to the "squeezes" of land-owners) construct good roads for riding and driving across the island.

We think the large income derived through the residence of foreign firms at this port, does away with any excuse the Chinese may make, as to want of means. If spread over two or three years, the cost would amount to but a small fraction of the Government's receipts.

In mentioning this subject, we are not without precedents for similar liberal acts; as the Shanghae authorities made good roads round the settlement (partly, no doubt, to suit their own purposes) and the Governor of Yokohama also made splendid drives, extending for miles, almost expressly for the benefit of foreign residents.

Suggestion. Vessels in ballast to be allowed to clear without paying tonnage dues.

We think that vessels should be allowed to enter and clear if in ballast, without paying tonnage dues.

We have, &c.
(Signed) A. W. G. RUSDEN.
C. A. WILD.
THOS. SMITH.
H. G. PEMBERTON.

Memorial from Missionaries at Foo-chow.

Foo-chow-foo, August 13, 1867.

To his Excellency Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B., &c., &c. &c.

Sir,

WE, the Undersigned Protestant missionaries of Great Britain resident at Foo-chow-foo, understand that it is proposed at an early date to make a partial revision of the existing Treaties between China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain. In view of this we beg respectfully to present to your Excellency the following suggestions with reference to a subject in which we, and the Christian churches we represent, are most deeply interested.

A clause in the VIth Article of the Convention between France and China, signed at Peking, October 28, 1860, states, "It is in addition permitted to French missionaries to

rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure." This provision of the French Convention, as your Excellency is aware, is not contained in the Treaties between Great Britain and China. It is our opinion, nevertheless, that by the operation of Article LIV of our Treaty, commonly known as the "favoured nation clause," the privileges thus granted to French missionaries are equally accorded to English missionaries. But it appears to us of the utmost importance that the matter should not remain in this merely inferential or constructive position, because hitherto the Chinese authorities have frequently denied or called in question the validity of the claim to these rights by British missionaries. A definite assertion in our Treaty on this point would obviate all further dispute on the subject with the Chinese officials, and bring before them directly and authoritatively these privileges which as British subjects we think we have a right to claim.

We therefore earnestly pray your Excellency to adopt such measures as may commend themselves to your judgment to obtain in the proposed revision of the Treaty between Great Britain and China a definite recognition of the right of British missionaries to preach and propagate the doctrines of Christianity "throughout the length and breadth of the Chinese empire, and to rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure."

With every sentiment of respect, we have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN R. WOLFE,
ARTHUR W. CRIBB.
Church Missionaries, Foo-chow-foo.

AMOY.

Memorial from the Mercantile Community of Amoy.

To his Excellency Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., D.C.L., &c., Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary, and Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China.

The Memorial of the Undersigned British merchants trading at the port of Amoy—

Humbly showeth,—

THAT your Memorialists are all directly and to a considerable extent interested in the trade of Amoy.

That for some time back British trade here has been in a great measure paralyzed by various causes, the most important of which are certain arbitrary exactions levied by the Mandarins upon all articles of commerce, and commonly called Lekin taxes. These were first imposed in 1860, ostensibly for the purpose of contributing towards the expense of putting down the Nanking rebellion, and in 1865 they were enormously increased to meet the expenses connected with the Taeping occupation of Chang-chow. Both these objects have been successfully accomplished, but the taxes are collected as rigorously as ever.

That in the opinion of your Memorialists these taxes are in direct contravention of the spirit of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, and more particularly of Article XXVIII, Rule 7, and they are confirmed in their opinion by the consideration that were it not so it would be in the power of any Mandarin to put an end to trade by the imposition of prohibitory taxes levied not on the importer but on the consumer.

That remonstrances have been addressed by your Memorialists to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul here for the time being on the following dates, 5th January, 1860, 4th and 16th May, 1865, without obtaining the smallest redress.

That your Memorialists have endeavoured to send their goods into the interior for sale under the stipulations of the Treaty, but the determined opposition of the Mandarins has prevented their doing so, and their goods have, therefore, been compelled to pay taxes according to the accompanying list, instead of the 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* authorized by Treaty.

It will be seen from this list that trade cannot possibly exist with such heavy burthen upon it.

That the districts which have been heretofore supplied with goods from this are now, in consequence of these taxes, being supplied from Swatow and other places where none such exist, consequently the trade of Amoy is almost paralyzed, and your Memorialists are

decidedly of opinion that it will soon flow permanently into other than the legitimate channels to the great detriment of all vested interests here if prompt redress is not obtained.

That your Memorialists have, therefore, two great and most reasonable causes of complaint; first, in the taxes being levied at all, and second, in their being only levied in the province of Fokien. They have shown that remonstrances have been duly made to Her Majesty's Consul without effect, and they have now no alternative short of appealing to Her Majesty's Minister in England, than to bring the matter before your Excellency. They therefore trust that looking at the magnitude and urgency of the case, and the heavy losses which they have already suffered through the operation of the obnoxious taxes, your Excellency will at once take the matter into favourable consideration, and do what seems best calculated to bring about a speedy and satisfactory redress of our grievances.

Your Memorialists would also draw your Excellency's attention to the embargo which has been put upon the Formosa rice trade for about two years back, and through which a valuable branch of business is lost to the port. The embargo was originally laid on because a partial failure of the crops in Formosa had taken place, and originally it extended to native as well as foreign vessels. For some months back the export in junks has been allowed, but it is still strictly prohibited in foreign vessels; and as rice is now cheaper both here and in Formosa than it has been for years back there can be no good reasons why the trade should not be allowed.

Your Excellency will no doubt see in this, as well as other matters, how utterly the Treaty rights of British merchants are ignored by the native authorities, and how urgently some measure is required in the approaching revision of the Treaty which shall for the future prevent any sudden and arbitrary disruption of legitimate trade.

Your Memorialists would respectfully beg that your Excellency will in this Act, as well as in the matter of illegal taxes, do whatever lies in your power to obtain redress.

We have, &c.

(Signed) ELLIS AND Co.
BOYD AND Co.
TAIT AND Co.

Letter from British Merchants at Amoy to Consul Swinhoe.

Sir, *Amoy, October* 18, 1867.

RESPONDING to the invitation given through you by Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Peking to state our opinion upon any matters connected with British interests in China, with the view that they may be considered in the coming revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, we now beg leave to wait upon you with the few following remarks:—

We find that the general business of this port has considerably diminished during the last few years, and we attribute this in a very great measure to Lekin taxes. It is impossible for us to express ourselves too strongly on the subject of these illegal exactions. We have protested against them on various occasions, and, as you are aware, we presented a Memorial on the subject to Her Majesty's Minister when he paid a visit to this place, On that occasion his Excellency frankly informed us that the taxes were, in his opinion, illegal and contrary to the spirit of the Treaty, and that he was prepared to do all in his power to abolish them. Since then three months have elapsed, but the taxes are still being collected.

We inclose copy of the above Memorial, the tenor of which we beg to confirm in every respect.

We are prepared to prove that these taxes range from $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. to 90 per cent., and that under this heavy incubus our trade has materially diminished. It would certainly be preposterous to expect anything else, particularly when our goods can be undersold in our own legitimate consuming districts, by importation overland from neighbouring provinces were no such illegal taxes exist. We give it as our matured and decided opinion that unless prompt and efficient redress be obtained, many lucrative branches of our trade will be lost to us entirely. Before leaving this subject, we would beg to protest against the wanton disregard of our Treaty rights. Under these we have invested considerable sums of money in real property, which will be to a certain extent useless if the present state of matters is to obtain. Her Majesty's Minister having endorsed our opinion that the taxes are illegal, we do not see why there should be so much delay, or any difficulty in obtaining speedy redress.

Custom-house.—We think that some part of the diminution of trade is due to Custom-house restrictions, and we would be glad to see a more liberal spirit obtain in the general administration of their affairs. At present they claim the right under Clause XXXVII of levying a fine of 500 taels in case of false or incorrect manifest. The amount is inordinately heavy, especially in the latter case, and we think the entire clause calls for revision; also that where there is no evidence of intent to defraud the revenue, the Custom-house should have no power to call for a fine, and that in any case British merchants should not be fined unless with the consent of the British Consul.

We find that the tendency of Custom-house action, and the loose manner in which the Treaty of Tien-tsin is worded and carried out, is to take away much of the general trade from Treaty ports and throw it into Hong Kong. Amoy, for centuries previous to the Custom-house being opened, was the head-quarters in the south of China of the trade with Siam, the Straits, and Java, but latterly very much of this trade has gone to Hong Kong. The trade also in Malacca tin, which in former years was a large and valuable one, has dwindled into insignificance. It is an undoubted fact that large quantities of this article are imported into Chinchou (which naturally in previous years got all its supplies from Amoy) by native lorchas from Hong Kong, and the Imperial revenue, as well as mercantile interests, has suffered accordingly.

We think that foreign goods and opium imported in native junks ought to pay the same duties as they do in foreign bottoms, and to effect this, these importations ought to be reported to the Imperial Custom-house.

We also think that the Custom-house may be said to encourage, tacitly, the continuance of smuggling at the non-Treaty ports, so long as they have not a sufficient preventive service on the coast. There is no doubt that smuggling by natives does take place on the coast to a large extent, and that they are encouraged in it by the absence of revenue cruizers, and by the high Tariff dues and illegal taxes which obtain at Treaty ports.

We do not think that the Custom-house does its duty, either to the Chinese Government or the mercantile interests, so long as an efficient preventive service does not exist. We think that there ought to be at least one steam revenue cruizer for each Treaty port, with jurisdiction over all the neighbouring bays and creeks; and, as more than a suspicion of smuggling has already attached to the so-called revenue cruizers which are established on the coast, we think measures ought to be taken to prevent the possibility of smuggling by those vessels.

We now proceed to mention those points on which some modification of the present Treaty, and additional privileges in the revised one, are required in the interests of commerce.

Transit Dues.—An imperative necessity exists for some stringent regulations being made in respect of these, and to insure that no other tax can by any possibility be levied. We think that none other than the Tariff duty ought to be leviable within a radius of, say six miles from the Custom-house of any Treaty port, and that the due payment of transit dues, as per section 3, Rule 7, ought to free the goods as far up country as the importer may desire. We also think that as a safe-guard it ought to be made competent for any British Consul, when it is proved that any additional tax has been inflicted, to order the amount to be deducted from the next payment to the Custom-house.

Duties on Exports.

Tea.—The quality of a large proportion of the tea produced in the surrounding district is very inferior to any other class of Chinese tea, and, consequently, the duty of 2 taels 5 mace weighs much more heavily here than in any other port in China. This duty was calculated to be 5 per cent. on the average value, whereas in common Ankoi teas it is not less than 35 per cent. In Japan, a very similar class of tea is obtained; the export duty is there only 5 per cent. It is shipped to the same market, as we ship the common teas of this district, and under the present heavy duty we cannot compete with it. We would suggest that the duty should be levied at 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, the proof of value being the price at which it is purchased.

Rice Wheat, and all other articles of food, should be free of duty entirely, and their movement amongst the coast ports unrestricted in any way. The present system, while adding very little to the revenue, is fraught with several evils; it tends to take away the trade from Treaty ports and throw it into Hong Kong; it enhances the price to consumers, and in times of scarcity supplies cannot be readily sent from neighbouring ports, because on account of the export duty it is now a rare occurrence to see rice, other than what is wanted for local consumption stored in a Treaty port.

Salt.—The carriage of salt in foreign vessels betwixt coast ports ought to be allowed under bond, in the same way as copper cash. A good many vessels have obtained cargoes of salt on mandarin account on the Formosa coast. We do not see why the Government monopoly could not be as effectually protected when the salt is shipped in foreign bottoms as it is now in native junks. In former years salt was frequently exported to the straits and Calcutta. The article can be furnished in almost any quantity from Quernoy, and it certainly would be very beneficial to that place, and also give some employment to foreign vessels were the prohibitions removed. We would suggest that the export to foreign ports be also permitted.

Duties on Imports.

Manchester Goods.—We would suggest a reduction of one-half of the present duty on these goods, and we believe that were such concessions made the importation would be stimulated in no ordinary degree.

Woollens.—At the present Tariff our goods cannot compete upon favourable terms with Russian made goods brought in overland. We would for this reason suggest a reduction of one-half.

Dock Material.—The duty upon wood, copper, yellow metal, and all such articles, is very high indeed. We cannot see any good reason why these, or any other articles brought in solely for foreign consumption or to be re-exported, should pay any duty whatever, and we would suggest, either that they should be entirely free or that a drawback should be given on all articles which can be proved to have been re-exported. The dock here was not started as merely a commercial speculation, and it has since been of great benefit in providing employment in this over-populated and poor district. We can only say that under the present circumstances it is impossible that the dock can prosper or compete with the Hong Kong docks; and that if foreign enterprise is to be summarily checked and every industrial undertaking is only to be regarded as an additional means of collecting a larger revenue, the evil of the last few years will be perpetuated.

Coal imported from foreign countries for the use of foreign war and merchant steamers ought to be free of duty. The duty on native coal is excessive, and prevents its competing with Japanese or other foreign coal. The difference in the duty betwixt foreign and native coal is so striking that it appears to us to be an oversight. The foreign is 5 candarines per ton, and the native 6 mace 6 candarines 8 cash per ton, or say 13 times greater than the other.

Guano and all manures, we think, ought to be allowed to come in free of duty.

Spelter, Saltpetre, and Sulphur.—The importation of these articles is allowed by Section 3, Rule 5, for sale to Chinese duly authorized to purchase them. So far as we know up to date, no Chinese have been duly authorized to deal in these articles here, and the consequence is that the trade in them has gone to Hong Kong. This ought to be rectified.

Coast Trade Duties.

We think the half duties now levied should be abolished, and that the payment of duty at one Treaty port should free the goods at all others. These duties are not provided for by any Treaty stipulation, and we can see no good reason why the coast trade should be taxed more heavily than any other trade.

Tonnage Dues.

These are very heavy. On looking over the Customs Returns we find that 86,654 Haikuan taels (equal to 171,290 dollars) have been collected from 31st March, 1862, up to 31st December, 1866, while we should say that not more than 2,000 dollars to 3,000 dollars have been expended on improving the harbour. This is not as it should be, and we would suggest that a certain proportion, say one-half, of the tonnage dues, less the expense of collection, be set aside for the requirements of the port where it is collected. There is great need of an efficient water police, and the public bunds and wharves are both inefficient and in bad repair; there are one or two dangerous rocks in the harbour which it would be quite possible to remove; and lastly, a good light-house on Chapel Island is a great desideratum, not only for Amoy but also for the whole coasting trade.

We think that steamers or vessels plying to Manila ought to come under the four months' clause, in the same manner as those running between Shanghae and Japan. At present, they have to pay each trip, and the tax is very heavy.

We also think that vessels entering and clearing in ballast ought to be free, and that

the compulsory sale of damaged cargo landed from a vessel in distress ought not to subject her to tonnage dues.

Pilotage.

Amoy has a great natural advantage in being so easy of access; and we would deprecate any arbitrary rules being foisted upon us in the matter of pilots and pilotage.

Wancheu.

We are strongly of opinion that Wancheu might advantageously be made a Treaty port. Previous to the opening of the Custom-house a considerable general business was done there, which undoubtedly could be renewed and increased. It is situated too far from Ningpo on the one hand and Foo-chow on the other to be likely to take away any of the legitimate business of these ports. At present, we believe, a very considerable portion of the trade is done in native-owned lorchas through Hong Kong, from which the Imperial revenue profits nothing. Were the port opened, we feel certain that a large additional revenue would flow into the Custom-house coffers.

Subsidiary Ports.

We advocate the opening of all the principal ports on the coast, not as regular Treaty ports but as subsidiary to these, and under such regulations as would ensure a large income of Imperial revenue, while at the same time they would prevent detriments to vested interests at Treaty ports. To effect this and do away with the necessity of having expensive Consular, Custom-house, and mercantile establishments at these subsidiary ports, we would propose that it be imperative that all vessels going to any of these ports must go from the nearest Treaty port, where they would deposit their papers, give bond, take out a special permit, and afterwards return to the same Treaty port to clear out in the usual manner. We think that, without some salutary regulations such as we have pointed out, the trade would speedily degenerate into a smuggling one.

Mandarin Salaries.

We would take this opportunity of pointing out that so long as Mandarins at Treaty ports are insufficiently paid by their Government, so long will they endeavour to exact illegal squeezes from our commerce. It is quite out of our province to offer suggestions bearing upon the internal economy of China, but there is little doubt that this matter deserves some serious consideration at the hands of those who are entrusted with the revision of our Treaty.

In conclusion, we beg to repeat that through the Lekin taxes and the Custom-house restrictions we have partially lost several valuable branches of the legitimate trade of the port, which it has enjoyed for a very long time. It is, of course, manifestly unjust that our trade should be diverted in this manner from its natural channels; and we hope and trust that the impediments which have caused this disruption will soon be finally removed, and measures taken to prevent the possibility of their recurrence in the future.

We shall feel obliged by your forwarding a copy of this letter to Her Majesty's Minister at your convenience; and should you require any further information upon the points on which we have commented, or upon any others, we shall be most happy to supply you with the same as far as lies in our power.

We have, &c.

(Signed) ELLES AND Co.
BOYDAND Co.
TAIT AND Co.
Pro John Forster and Co.,
E. M. SMITH.
H. D. BROWN AND Co.
J. CASS, *Secretary of Amoy Dock Company.*

HONG KONG.

Memorial from the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

To his Grace the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The Memorial of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce

Humbly showeth,

1. THAT at a special meeting of the Chamber, convened on the 19th of October, it was resolved to address your Grace on the subject of the revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

2. The Chamber not having received intimation from Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Peking that suggestions would receive consideration, it has availed itself of the offer of the Governor of this Colony, Sir Richard Graves Mac Donnell, to transmit the result of its deliberations to the proper quarter.

Existing Treaty to be enforced.

3. In introducing the subject of Treaty revision, the Chamber begs to submit that it is of paramount importance that Her Majesty's Government should, in the first place, take cognizance of the fact that in many material respects the existing Treaty is unfulfilled on the part of the Chinese Government. Your Memorialists, therefore, urge the advisability of requiring compliance with both the spirit and letter of evaded and unfulfilled provisions, as the breach of privileges accorded is a grievance long felt, increasing in intensity the longer it is suffered to remain unquestioned.

4. The Chamber unhesitatingly asserts the opinion that special exception should be taken to the passive resistance with which the desire to take advantage of the more advanced privileges of British subjects is met by the Chinese authorities in different parts of the Empire, barring the way to commercial progress, and impressing the uninformed among the Chinese people with the idea that many Treaty rights are not allowed by the supreme authorities.

Obstructiveness of Chinese officials.

5. It may be presumed that unless weighty remonstrances upon the dilatoriness of the Chinese Government, in not appointing special Commissioners to inquire into the subject of appeals to Peking, be made a prelude to negotiations for further concessions, non-fulfilment of engagements will be the rule, not the exception; and that there will be constant repetition of obstructiveness on the part of subordinate officials, stationed at Treaty ports, which resolves itself into a systematic evasion of the consideration of important matters brought to their notice by Her Majesty's Consuls. This evasion is effected by reference to Peking on a plea of inability to cope with, perhaps, no difficulty, but a simple question of privilege, which the applicant would exercise in a district or province remote from the capital, or the surrendering of persons accused by British subjects of criminal acts. Appeal gains time, and gives the Chinese Foreign Office (Tsang li Yamen) the opportunity of expressing willingness to further British interests, but, at the same time, of disposing of the appeal by a declaration of a nature similar to that by which the question was set aside when first raised.

6. The Chamber desires to see reform in respect of this matter, and restoration of the prestige of Her Majesty's Consuls, the apparent remedy being modification of the present system, increasing their powers by the occasional display, if not employment, of more than moral force when dealing with the Chinese authorities connected with their individual jurisdiction.

7. Taking the sections of the Treaty of Tien-tsin in numerical order, your Memorialists beg to lay before your Grace their opinions regarding their revision and amendment.

Privileges to Protestant Missionaries.

8. Article VII. Special immunities having been granted to Roman Catholics, Protestant missionaries put forward claim to like privileges, viz.: right to live in the interior, to hold property for mission purposes, and to pursue their ordinary avocations in the interior of the country without limit of distance and without hindrance.

Freedom of travel in the interior.

9. Article IX. Travel into the interior under passport has, in numerous instances, been prevented by the evident ignorance of the Chinese people of the terms under which the privilege was granted, and opposition has been offered in consequence: though the Convention of Peking expressly requires that promulgation of the terms of the Treaty be made for general information. It is therefore very desirable that, on the revision of the Treaty, special attention be given to making all its terms known throughout the Empire.

Permission for steam-vessels to ply on Poyang Lake.

10. Article X requires the additional privilege to ply steamers upon the Poyang Lake. The desirability of this extension is expressed in the Report of Her Majesty's Consul at Kew Kiang (Commercial Reports, 1862-64), and again has been brought before the notice

of Her Majesty's Minister by residents at that port, on the occasion of his recent visit. At the time the Article was framed, the presence on the Yang-tsze River of lawless persons of various nationalities, and the occupation of districts bordering on the lake by rebels, justified in some degree the desire of the Chinese authorities to limit the navigation of these inner waters. Restoration of legitimate authority and the revival of traffic, with the prospect of commercial transactions increasing in importance, now offer to enterprising persons inducements to extend tradal operations with the interior which for a length of time have not existed. The facility of carriage afforded by the employment of steam-tugs would therefore greatly benefit local trade.

and extension of steam traffic on Canton River.

11. Under regulations, authority to take steam-boats further up the Canton River than the provincial city should be granted, bringing distant markets nearer, and doing away with the constant delays occurring to boats detained by prevailing contrary winds. It is also suggested that river-steamers carrying cargo and passengers shall, under permit, have resort to towns situated within the limit of the jurisdiction of the Maritime Customs.

12. Article XI. The cities of Chau-chow (Swatow) and Kiung-chow (Hainan), included among the open ports, have remained virtually closed: the result, in a measure, of the unwillingness of the local authorities to grant facilities to British subjects desirous of proceeding to these places to carry on trade. With regard to Chau-chow, the right of residence has been refused, and at the present time this vexed question is the subject-matter of correspondence between the aggrieved parties and Peking. Treaty privileges have been entirely withheld, and it is evident that official authority is not exercised on behalf of applicants; indeed, it would seem that the threatening attitude assumed by the populace is connived at by the local Chinese authorities: a matter easily corrected if the Yamen of Foreign Affairs at Peking made a repetition of the offence ground for removing the Prefect of the city from office.

Treaty Ports that still remain closed.

13. At Kiung-chow a growing trade with this Colony has been blighted by an almost prohibitory regulation of the Maritime Customs, limiting vessels bound to Hainan to clearance at Canton under pain of confiscation. The Chamber does not presume to question the reason of the action of Her Majesty's Government in not taking advantage of the Treaty right of resort to the port, they would, however, suggest that from among the merchants desirous of residing at the port, a British Consular Agent be chosen who would, under the supervision of the Consul at Canton, be able to perform all necessary acts connected with the opening of the port. The protection of a gun-boat would, for a time, be requisite. The west coast or seaboard of the Canton Province, extending from Macao to Hainan, affords promise of being connected with the Colony of Hong Kong by a traffic which, if fostered, may in course of time attain to considerable proportions. The first step towards securing this would be the opening of a port and the encouragement of trade under British auspices.

Opening of the port of Kiung-chow.

14. Article XII. Although Her Majesty's Government have not admitted that the insertion of the words "at other places" gives right of residence at places distant from the Treaty ports, it is hoped that the present text will remain intact, though partially in abeyance, so as to be availed of, if needs be, during the period intervening between the present time and the year 1878, before which date difficulties attending residence at places remote from the open ports will probably be lessened.

Right of residence at other places than Treaty ports.

15. Articles XIX and LIII are inoperative, or nearly so, as on the part of the Chinese Government there has been little or no provision made to carry out their obligations, and the duty of capturing robbers and pirates has been left to be performed by Her Majesty's navy.

16. Article XXIII has often been the subject of comment, as escape of Chinese criminals from Hong Kong has been of frequent occurrence. In the instance of the absconding person being a debtor, application for his arrest has to be made by the merchants to the Consuls at Canton, who can only represent the case, and demand, but not always obtain, the appearance of the delinquent. In the event of his surrendering, the prosecuting creditor resident in this Colony has to send from this place to Canton counsel and evidence to prove the debt. Nothing could be more inconvenient.

Rendition of absconding debtors.

17. The mutual surrender of criminals is, primarily, a matter for the Executive of this Colony. The rendition of absconding debtors escaping from Hong Kong to the mainland is, however, unquestionably a clause which should be added to the Article for the protection of the interests of the mercantile community, an authoritative demand, proceeding from the Government of this Colony, might receive more immediate attention than the request of the British Consul that a charge preferred be investigated.

18. Article XXVII specially provides for a revision of the Tariff. It has been said that in review of the past and in consideration of the present, England cannot justly require material alterations in the existing Tariff, and the Chinese Government will doubt-

Reduction of Tariff on Imports.

less demur, in the first instance, to any reductions; but the object of Her Majesty's Government should be to convince them that by lowering their Tariff rates they will be gainers in actual revenue, the immense expansion of trade since the introduction of the present Tariff (which is more liberal than the previous one) leads to the conclusion that fresh reductions would lead to further expansion and to an extent that would actually give more revenue than was collected under the higher scale of duties. A comparative statement of the value of imports from Great Britain at the commencement and termination of ten years is concisely given in the following Table:—

IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

	Hong Kong and Whampoa.		Shanghae.	
	1856.	1866.	1856.	1866.
	£	£	£	£
Cotton piece goods ..	501,776	1,072,161	742,672	3,216,906
Cotton twist	150,913	442,640	2,190	6,796
Woollen and worsted goods ..	65,818	229,772	142,214	1,027,951
Long ells	20,925	16,030	30,155	95,751
Metals	111,398	150,011	46,164	107,149
Other descriptions of goods and coals	76,777	368,251	29,909	749,698
	927,607	2,278,865	993.304	5,204,251

1866. 1866.
Increase .. £1,351,258 Increase .. £4,210,947
Total of Increase .. £5,562,205.

19. The Returns of imports to Shanghae show a marked improvement and should be the best argument in favour of giving extended facilities to trade with interior markets. Since 1861 British subjects have had access to the great consuming districts bordering on the Yangtsze, and the result appears in the statements now brought forward. There is everything to encourage advance; there is, however, no disposition shown by the Chinese Government to entertain proposals to give Her Majesty's subjects more special admission to the great trading marts of the country.

20. Foreseeing that difficulties may be raised with regard to extended intercourse when the High Commissioners meet next year, the Chamber is anxious that Her Majesty's Government should bear in mind the importance of combating the notion of anything approaching to a retrograde movement. At the present juncture foreign trade has received a severe check from the extreme depression pervading commerce generally, it is, therefore, a matter of great moment that everything be done to stimulate and re-enliven that which directly acts upon the manufacturing trade and the shipping interests of Great Britain, and is indirectly conducive to the welfare of certain sections of the British people.

21. In 1856 the British Tariff imposed a duty upon tea of 1*s.* 9*d.* per lb., and on manufactured silks a rate of 3*s.* to 10*s.* per lb., and on particular descriptions a rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* The duty on manufactured silks has been abolished, and on tea reduced from 1*s.* 9*d.* to 6*d.* per lb.

Reduction of Tariff on imports.

22. Taking the shipments of tea from China to Great Britain for one year, 1866, the reduction of duty, compared with what would have been paid had the rate remained at 1*s.* 9*d.*, amounts for that single year to the very large sum of 7,000,000*l.*; the aggregate reduction, therefore, made during the ten years now closing is a sum total immeasureably exceeding any concession that the Chinese Government will be called upon to make. To this favourable state of affairs may be added the fact that the export of tea to the United Kingdom, which in 1856 was about 88,500,000 lbs., increased in 1866 to 114,900,000 lbs., giving to the Imperial Maritime Customs a gradual increase in revenue, which, up to the present time, has received no check, and is likely to continue on the increase.

23. The Treaty of Tien-tsin having been based on an intercourse of reciprocity, this Chamber contends that Her Majesty's Government has fair claim to the very full consideration, and has strong ground on which to frame request for alterations in the existing Tariff. Believing that this view of the position of affairs will be generally accepted, the Chamber advocates that, on the revision of the Treaty, all textile fabrics and metals be henceforth admitted at one-half the rates chargeable under the existing Tariff, that is, reducing the charge originally computed at about 5 per cent. *ad valorem* to 2½ per cent.

24. And further, in view of the probability that a decline in the value of cotton during

the next few years will render the rates of the existing Tariff a charge of more than 5 per cent. upon the value of cotton manufactures, your Memorialists trust that the proposed concession will receive your Grace's favourable consideration.

Abolition of all dues on coals.

25. The means of providing expeditious carriage is so greatly beneficial to commerce that entire abolition of all charges on coals, both foreign and Chinese, is earnestly sought for, whether under the Tariff or imposed as coast dues; the fact that heavy dues were laid upon the article seems to have escaped the notice of the compilers of the existing Tariff; it is however confidently expected that this fuel will be freed from all imposts, as refusal to do so would be diametrically opposed to Chinese interests. In proof of the above an extract is here given from Mr. Commissioner Fitzroy's last report of the trade of Shanghae:—

"The duty levied on foreign coals imported into China is fixed by Treaty at 5 candarines per ton. The duty charged upon native coals exported is 4 candarines per picul; and therefore under the Coast Trade Regulations the duty on coals passing from one Chinese port to another amounts to six candarines a picul. The disadvantage under which the native product labours is so evident, that it scarcely needs the proof communicated to me by a foreign merchant during the last summer, being the result of two operations in which his firm had engaged as an experiment, and which I subjoin.

"1. Duty paid in Formosa and Shanghae on 7,196 piculs, 480 taels 9 mace 6 candarines, or 23 per cent. on value 1,997 taels 1 mace 7 candarines.

"2. Duty paid in Formosa and Shanghae on 10,000 piculs, 668 taels 4 mace, or on actual market value 2,910 taels.

"Thus the carriage by sea in foreign bottoms form one port to another of the produce of Chinese coalfields is at present virtually prohibited."

26. Article XXVIII contains direct allusion to irregularities in the imposition of transit duties, which, at the close of a period of ten years, still continue to be a great source of annoyance to native purchasers of foreign imports and indirectly to the British merchant.

27. Not only does each province of the Chinese Empire levy dues on foreign goods in transit, but it is almost universal that dues are exacted by the Prefect exercising authority over the Foo or first sub-divisions of a province. In the Province of Fokien and the western district of the Canton province a systematic imposition is practised, detrimental to commercial interests, and producing constant fluctuations in markets, which, if uninfluenced by these illegal acts, would be ruled by the ordinary effects of supply and demand. To quote the text of Her Majesty's Treaty under revision is to express the existing state of affairs "charges are suddenly and arbitrarily imposed" and to a greater or less extent this irregularity prevails throughout the Empire.

Illegal exactions levied on goods in excess of Tariff.

28. The remedy for this evil may be found in an extension of the foreign inspectorate, which, inaugurated to regulate and systematize the payment of Tariff dues, is now, apparently, the only method which could be devised to correct and adjust the multifarious excesses of the Inland Revenue Department. The benefits conferred upon the Maritime Customs by calling in the aid of a foreign inspectorate is acknowledged by all impartial minds, and by none more readily than by the Chinese authorities; it seems then only in keeping with the circumstances of the present time that efforts should be made to induce order in the Inland Revenue Department, where at present none exists, by the application of a system which has worked so well, thereby freeing commerce from the numerous disadvantages and obstructions resulting from the present uncertainty as to the nature and extent of the charges to be paid on imports.

29. It is unnecessary to cite cases in proof of the statement that Transit dues are levied in excess of Treaty stipulations, it is patent to British Consuls and stated publicly in the printed Reports on trade issued by the order of the Inspector-General of Customs, and demands the special attention of the High Commissioners appointed to revise the Treaty.

30. Much information regarding this infraction of the Article may be gathered by a Mixed Commission of inquiry, and it is to be hoped there may be found British subjects in the employ of the Chinese Government, who, having the confidence of both Her Majesty's Minister and the Chinese authorities, may be selected to act in organising a better state of things, enforcing one uniform system, defining the stations at which collection of dues shall be made, and by inspection at stated intervals, protecting the Chinese people trading in British manufactures, and at the same time British importers, from exactions extorted at the caprice of every petty official.

31. Prominent among the exactions that cramp the expansion of the internal trade of China is the Lekin or war tax, which, whether originally levied in the interior under the plea of necessity for raising a portion of the indemnity paid to the allied forces after the last war, or to replenish an exchequer reduced by efforts made in crushing

the Taeping rebellion, is judged to be an unwarrantable breach of the Treaty. No one doubts but that the Lekin is, in a great degree, pressed upon the Chinese people for the immediate enrichment, and to administer to the sordidness, of persons having authority in districts where the toll is exacted. This view of the case is, in a measure, proven by the fact that it is most pressed in localities least accessible to the supervision of the Peking Cabinet.

32. In addition to the collection of extra transit dues and the war tax, British subjects have a third grievance under this Article in the levying of coast dues, concerning the operation of which, at unfrequented ports, information is with difficulty obtained. Duty at one port is in part collected again upon goods if sent coastwise, an imposition unauthorized and in excess of Treaty stipulations.

Extension of coast certificate exempting ships from tonnage dues for certain periods.

33. Article XXIX. The Chamber seeks for an extension of the coast certificate exempting a vessel, after payment of dues, for a period of four months to a period of six months, and, also, permission during that time to resort to Japan, the Straits, and the Philippines. The certificate now issued limits vessels to trading with the open ports of China, an extension to the foreign ports mentioned would not only be of benefit to shipowners, but permit of more frequent and cheaper carriage of merchandize to and from China.

Portion of tonnage dues to be awarded to cruisers engaged in suppressing piracy.

34. The stipulation to pay dues is, under this Article, exacted without any corresponding return being made of benefit to the shipping interest. It therefore becomes a matter of consideration whether this claim should be allowed under the provisions of a new Treaty, unless some adequate return be made by the Chinese authorities by performance of the duties undertaken under Articles XIX and LIII (relating to suppression of piracy) and Article XXXII (regarding distribution of buoys and light ships). Under the circumstances of Her Majesty's navy being actively engaged in the suppression of piracy, thereby lessening the dangers of the coast trade, not only for British vessels, but rendering the Chinese waters safer for country vessels and for craft under flags of all nations trading with China, it may not be deemed unreasonable to propose that a portion of the tonnage dues paid by foreign vessels, and those bearing the flags of powers having no naval force in China, be returned to Her Majesty's Government half-yearly by the Maritime Customs in recognition of services rendered. This payment, however, to give no privilege of employment of Her Majesty's cruisers other than that which, on requisition having been made, may be authorized by Her Majesty's Senior Naval Officer at Hong Kong, or by the Consul at coast ports not further north than Ningpo.

Lighthouses and beacons.

35. Article XXXII. The consultations of Consuls and Superintendents of Customs have, it would appear, resulted in the decision that little occasion exists for the erection of marks for the guidance of shipping resorting to open ports. Had the deliberations that led to this conclusion been given to the public, they would have afforded interesting matter for discussion, and would undoubtedly have elicited opinions adverse to the inaction which leaves dangers unmarked, and the entrance to several rivers without those facilities for navigation which were evidently intended to be provided. As the Chinese authorities, left to themselves, do little, an improvement may be devised by their placing a certain sum, not less than one-fifth of the tonnage dues annually collected at each Treaty port, in the hands of a Board composed of two or more Consuls representing nations that have paid the largest amount of dues on vessels during the preceding year, who, with the Superintendent of Customs, shall meet periodically for the purpose of carrying out the intention of of this Article.

Payment of duties.

36. Article XXXIII treats of the standard of silver required for duty payment. The present system of payment of duties is antiquated and highly inconvenient to those engaged in trade, and the Chamber would suggest that the Tariff rates should be payable in whatever coin or bullion may be recognized as the mercantile currency for transactions between foreigners and Chinese at the various ports, without addition for premium. The regulation requiring payment in Haiquan sycee, a currency of which very little actually exists, or in coin or bullion, with a premium added, supposed to make the payment equal to this all but imaginary currency, is one which should not be permitted to continue ; it also fosters abuses committed by the so-called Government banks attached to each Custom-house, these institutions having it in their power to advance or depress the value of sycee as it suits their interest or convenience. A case illustrating the evil of the system has lately occurred at the port of Foo-chow, where, for some years past, Mexican and Foo-chow dollars were received in payment of duties, with a premium of 6 per cent. ; this per-centage has of late been raised to 10, thus adding 4 per cent. to the duties which were levied a short time ago. Should this suggestion of the Chamber meet with your Grace's approval, and the Chinese Government be induced to accept at the southern ports (Canton, Swatow, Amoy, and Foo-chow), dollars in payment of duties on the same terms as they are received in general commercial

transactions, not only would it be a great convenience to trade, but it might be the means of introducing largely into China the dollars coined at the Hong Kong Royal Mint, and thus greatly benefit this Colony. Some years ago an arbitrary distinction was made by the Chinese between Carolus and Mexican dollars, the latter being refused except at a discount of 12 to 15 per cent., a difference done away with by an edict promulgated at the instance of the Acting Consul at the time, Mr., now Sir Harry, Parkes; this case may be said not to apply to the matter here referred to, but it serves to show that reforms of magnitude were effected at a time when liberal ideas were only gaining slight acceptance, and what may be done in the interests of commerce by the representations of a Consul alive to the desirability of freeing it from unnecessary exactions.

Permission to re-export foreign grain.

37. Article XLV. The concluding paragraph of the Article permits that foreign grain brought into any port in China in a British ship, if no part thereof has been landed, may be re-exported without hindrance. The permit does not extend to grain that has been landed and stored. It has frequently occured that stocks have accumulated at an open port, which might have been removed by the British merchant to a foreign port with advantage. The prohibition to remove foreign grain to ports not in China should be withdrawn, as it has often proved a source of great hardship to merchants not being able to avail themselves of other markets, when those of China were unfavourable.

38. Articles XLVII and XLVIII have been superseded by Supplemental Articles agreed to between Mr. Wade and Prince Kung relative to cases of Customs seizure. Instances which have called for the exercise of these rules have been few, still objection may be taken to them, as there is no gradation of penalties to be inflicted in case of any person or persons on board a British vessel being convicted of a breach of the Customs regulations; ship and cargo are liable to confiscation by the rules agreed to at Peking, under date of 27th October 1865, and thus the act of an individual, according to the reading of the text of the agreement, is allowed to be sufficient to place in jeopardy property belonging to others. Modification of that portion of Mr. Wade's agreement just considered is almost imperatively required, and further alterations may be suggested with respect to the exemption of British vessels from penalty under certain circumstances, such as entering a harbour as a port of refuge when in distress, towing or assisting vessels in distress, or, if in ballast, for all purposes not being a violation of the law as laid down for the prevention of smuggling in most other countries. In view of the great stringency of this regulation and its unfavourable bearing upon the interests of merchants, its relaxation and amendment is earnestly sought.

Seizure and confiscation of goods belonging to British subjects by Chinese Customs officers illegal.

39. The experience gained by the Maritime Customs under the Foreign Inspectorate, must have dispelled the idea, held at the outset, that attempts to defraud the revenue of just dues were systematically practised. It is, therefore, surprising that so late as 1865, Mr. Wade should agree to rules stringent as ever; and while seeking no redress of British grievances well known to him, and brought to Her Majesty's Minister's notice by this Chamber, consent to adjudication of cases in a Mixed Court, thereby limiting the judicial functions of British Consuls, and at the same time placing them in juxtaposition with Chinese officials, their inferiors in rank.

40. That Her Majesty's Consuls would be desirous of avoiding the position appears to have been foreseen by Mr. Wade, who inserted the clause:—

"The Consul and Superintendent may, if they see fit, appoint deputies to meet at the Custom-house in their stead, in which case the order of proceeding will be the same as if they were present in person."

41. Appeals would be made only in cases of moment; the Chamber therefore begs that in all cases the British Consul will be instructed to adjudicate in person, and be entitled to call a Court at the British Consulate, and that, at the invitation of the British Consul, the Chinese officials representing the Customs be invited to assist in the hearing of the case. The Chamber protests emphatically against the introduction of a procedure placing Her Majesty's Consuls in a lower position than formerly accorded to them, which is directly calculated to weaken their power, detract from their influence, and render remonstrances addressed by them to the Chinese officials of the districts over which they have jurisdiction, less authoritative than heretofore. This Chamber has from the very first denied the right claimed by employés of the Chinese Maritime Customs, to adjudicate in cases of contravention of the Revenue laws; and it is anything but desirable that those who are to derive a pecuniary benefit from a confiscation should sit as Judges in the case.

Interference with the trade of Hong Kong.

42. The Maritime Customs have recently aimed a blow at the shipping interests of Hong Kong by disallowing the transhipment of cargo in this port under exemption certificate. Until this regulation came into force Hong Kong had the same advantages as a Chinese port for the purposes of transhipment, a position simply commensurate with the spirit and intention of the Treaty, as plainly evinced by the fact that vessels trading to Hong Kong are, with respect

to the payment of tonnage dues, on precisely the same footing as if trading to any Treaty port. By withdrawing this concession (an eminently beneficial one, the Chamber believes, to the general interests both of foreign and native trade in this part of China), the Customs compel sea-going steamers to load and discharge at Canton, a port unfit for vessels of a deep draft, instead of availing of the more convenient mode of working, in conjunction with the admirable river steamers plying between the two places. This arbitrary change in the policy of the Chinese Customs seems to arise from a desire to ignore Hong Kong, and to enhance the importance of Canton as a resort of shipping; but while the relative conditions of the two places in respect of harbour accommodation must prevent such an idea from being realized, the absence of the facility referred to is certainly a great drawback to those shipping interests, on which the prosperity of Hong Kong as a Colony so much depends. The Chamber therefore expresses a most earnest hope that it will be arranged permanently that merchandize coming from one Treaty port and bound to another may be transhipped in Hong Kong under the same conditions in respect of duty as if transhipped in a Treaty port.

43. The removal of unnecessary restrictions, and the destruction of unfair, because partial, privileges is a matter which Her Majesty's Government, by universal advocacy of all that has tended to promote a liberal commerce, can fairly press upon the attention of the Chinese Government. The Chamber has already alluded to many burdens to Trade which they trust will, under Treaty revision, be removed in China; in addition to these there is an exceptional restriction practised in Formosa which being in contravention of the obligations entered into by the Chinese Government, is here noticed. Camphor is one of the most important exports from Tamsui; its production, however, is greatly checked by being monopolized or farmed by the Chinese Government, who make sale of the article illegal except to its own nominee. This restriction is injurious not only to the producer, who is compelled to dispose of the camphor to the monopolist, but to the foreign buyer, who is also compelled to submit to his extortions. The throwing open of this trade to free competition has been withheld on no tenable grounds.

Permission to work mines.

44. The abolition of all imposts upon coal would undoubtedly lead to an increased demand for that fuel, which could only be met by working mines with appliances common in foreign countries; with this in view it is important that permission to work mines of all descriptions, and to employ necessary machinery, be granted to British subjects. Coal is found in Chekiang, Oopack, Shantung, and the Canton Province, also in Formosa: it is at present surface worked. The Chinese Government exercise seigniorial rights, which, if defined in a liberal sense, would facilitate the progress of mining.

Desirability of more f requent visits of Her Majesty's Minister to Treaty ports.

45. The recent inspection of Consular establishments at the open ports by Her Majesty's Minister has been productive of good, and the Chamber cannot but express the opinion that an annual visitation is likely to be fruitful of further benefit. A visit of Her Majesty's Minister, accompanied by naval force suitable to his rank, would gain respect for Her Majesty's Government which Chinese officials distant from the capital would not otherwise accord; representations concerning irregularities made by Her Majesty's Minister after personal investigation, would carry weight which could not be gained by correspondence carried on with Peking.

Benefits to be derived from constructing railroads.

46. It is a matter for regret that the Chinese Government has not given encouragement to those who have of late been desirous of introducing a system of railways into the country; the Chamber considers it desirable that the privilege should be accorded, and that to ensure this an additional Treaty clause be provided, as, though great difficulties stand in the way of their introduction, these are not insuperable. Looking back to the commencement of the Treaty period, now almost expired, the review leads to the conclusion that, though slow in accepting all that western civilization offers, the Chinese will, sooner or later, follow other countries in the adoption of quick transport on land, having since 1861 shown considerable appreciation of the rapid conveyance afforded by steamers plying on the coast and on the great rivers, and from their having become large shareholders in the various Steam Navigation Companies. Not only have the mercantile classes among the Chinese largely availed themselves of the facilities offered by steamers, but officials, and the most prejudiced of all, the *literati*, now acknowledge their utility, and superiority to the old-fashioned mode of transport.

47. The permanent benefits to be derived from the introduction of the system, need not be enlarged upon; to China it would undoubtedly be productive of substantial advantage, the foremost being that of giving to the Chinese Government the means of checking rebellion, and communicating rapidly with distant provinces. Construction of railways would bring with it foreigners necessary to the conduct of the undertaking; and it is to be hoped that the country that gave railways to Europe will be instrumental in conferring the same benefit upon China. It is no innovation that employment under the

Chinese Government be given to British subjects, and there is little doubt their assistance and co-operation would be as valuable in connection with the introduction of railways as it has been in other respects.

48. This Chamber therefore trusts that Her Majesty's Government will use every argument calculated to induce the Chinese Government to grant permission to construct railways in all parts of the Empire, and obtain an Act giving any company formed to carry out such undertaking all needful privileges.

49. Though the Chinese have placed difficulties in the way of the establishment of telegraphs, the Chamber is anxious that permission be granted to carry them through any part of the country, and in event of their admission, that proclamations be issued, making the population within a certain distance of their course responsible for any attempt to interfere with their working. A submarine cable may be laid to China before long; and it is advisable to prepare for the undertaking by obtaining privilege to land the cable at any or all of the open ports, with exemption from duty for all material employed. Telegraphs.

50. The Chamber begs in conclusion to express a hope that it may be permitted to know, prior to Her Majesty's Minister's comment reaching England, how far the recommendations of this Memorial coincide with the views of Sir Rutherford Alcock. In order that delays be avoided, it is respectfully requested that the Superintendent of Trade be instructed to place the Chamber in possession of such portion of his despatches as may relate and reply to points now brought under consideration; the favour would be appreciated and would allow, if necessary, of the expression of assent or dissent with the views propounded in despatches in course of transmission to the Home Government.

On behalf of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce,
(Signed) PHINEAS RYRIE, *Chairman.*

Memorial from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.

To his Excellency Sir Richard Graves Mac Donnell, C.B., Governor of Hong Kong, &c., &c., &c.

May it please your Excellency,

THE chief seat of the business which our firm carries on in China being, and since the first erection of the Colony having been, located in Hong Kong, we respectfully solicit your Excellency's good offices to assist us in bringing before Her Majesty's Government this exposition of our views as to the forthcoming revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

2. We find our first duty in entering upon this most important subject, to be predication that the Treaty of Tien-tsin has proved itself an instrument which does great honour to those who originally framed it. Its results show it to have sprung from a sagacious and statesmanlike prevision of the necessities of commerce; and, aside from the discussion of mere details, the fact is borne home to us that in addressing your Excellency, as we have the honour to do now, our care should be to advocate extension of the views indicated by the Treaty itself, together with liberality, advertence, and consideration towards foreign interests on the part of the functionaries entrusted with its conduct and administration, rather than to suggest any radical alterations in its terms or policy. We shall, in the course of this communication, find it necessary to animadvert upon the arbitrary manner in which certain privileges—notably, that of residence in the interior of China—conferred by Treaty upon British subjects, are construed and withheld by the Queen's Ministers and Representatives; we shall feel ourselves, in the interests of trade and commerce, urgently called upon to recommend certain alterations in practice which our experience leads us to believe are imperatively required; but our main object throughout will be to impress upon Her Majesty's Government our conviction that, during the forthcoming revision of the Treaty, their efforts should be directed more to the general development of that instrument's original intentions, than to the further acquisition from the Chinese of minor exemptions and immunities, which would neither advance British national interests, nor be gracefully conceded by the Emperor's advisers. We hold firmly that a defective Treaty, rigidly insisted on, is of greater value than one in which no flaw is to be detected, but whose beneficial enactments are nevertheless set aside or ignored, either of design or of neglect. In the one case disappointment is never entailed upon those who may adventure their means upon the faith of the document's provisions; but, in the other, hopes are constantly excited only to be defeated, and ruin may speedily accrue from too implicit a reliance upon stipulations unfulfilled. Under the latter category should the Treaty of Tien-tsin, we believe, be classed. Its conception displayed masterly skill, and it has already bestowed great benefits upon commerce; yet these benefits are but as shadows when compared with those which might have been reaped from it, had the rights which it

confers been insisted upon in their integrity. We know well the honourable and prudential motives which have actuated Her Majesty's Government in this matter, and we acknowledge the dignified patience which they have displayed towards China under the trying ordeal upon which she entered in 1860; but forbearance is now costing England more than it brings in, and we anxiously trust that the opportunity afforded by the approaching revision will be used as much to impress upon the Chinese that in the future Treaty rights and obligations shall be sternly exacted from them, as to obtain from them additional advantages and privileges.

3. Having premised thus much as to the general scope of our views upon this subject, we should state that our suggestions as to the points to be most prominently borne in mind by British diplomatists at the coming Conference, range themselves under four heads; namely, the right of residence up-country, inclusive both of the privilege of navigating, from the ports of entry already established, the inland waters of China by means of foreign built craft of a certain small size, and of the suppression of all extra-covenanted taxes and exactions; the better, more equitable, and certain administration of justice between foreigners and Chinese; the rightful application and the possible reduction of tonnage dues; together with the revision of the Tariff, inclusive of the addition of the commodity, salt, to its list of imports, of the recision of that "rule of trade" which renders Articles IX and XXVIII of the Treaty inapplicable to opium, and of extension of the time allowed for claiming drawback of duty upon goods re-exported.

4. To commence with the first, and, perhaps, the most important, of all these *desiderata*—that is to say, the right of residence in the interior of China, with its corollaries as above set forth. It is not, we humbly conceive, to be denied, that by Article XII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, the right of residence at "other places" than the ports was conceded to British subjects by China, contrary interpretation hitherto on the part of our own Government notwithstanding. We attach the highest importance to this right, which has, nevertheless, been ever since its concession studiously denied to us. We see in this right the only means whereby England can achieve the reward deserved by the sacrifices which she has made in this Empire; the sole method by which Western civilization can be extended; the single channel through which is to be attained that abundant trade upon the confines of which we hover, and which would prove so greatly fraught with benefit to our manufacturing masses, as well as redound so much to the advantage of the inland population of China. We ask, therefore, that our right of residence up-country be no longer withheld from us, but that British subjects be permitted to settle in the interior, to hire, own, and erect suitable dwellings and places of business, and to navigate the inland waters of China, from the ports already opened, by means of foreign built craft, to be registered, or licensed, or obliged to carry sailing letters, and not to exceed a certain size, whether propelled by steam or otherwise. The first benefit, and one of the utmost importance, which would result from such enlightened and liberal policy, if pursued, would be the abolition at one fell blow of the illegal, because renounced by Treaty, imposts and exactions persistently laid from place to place by local authority upon all foreign manufactures and upon produce destined for foreign use. It is not necessary that we should furnish here details of the nature of these imposts and exactions; the fact of their existence and the shapes they take are as well known to Her Majesty's Government as to ourselves, and their amount in the aggregate far exceeds that of the legitimate import and export duties; they are deadly foes of the English artizan, for they make teas and silks dear, as well as impede the distribution, amongst millions of buyers, of the various productions of his handicraft. If the policy, which we are now advocating, be adopted, we picture in the future many small foreign trading posts throughout the various provinces, whither foreign merchandize, in original packages as imported, could be conveyed cheaply, safely, expeditiously, and then be parcelled out among the native dealers and shopkeepers. Foreigners should not on any account be allowed to open shops, or sell by retail; as the sole end immediately aimed at at is the transmission, inexpensive, speedy, and untaxed, save as may be lawful, of foreign goods to the native consumer, and of produce to the shipping ports. Upon similar grounds likewise should foreign-owned craft be strictly prohibited and restrained from sharing in, or interfering with, the purely native inland traffic. The evidence of the past justifies us in affirming that but a few years' duration of such a system would bring about a most noble and gratifying increase of our trade with this Empire, and open large fields for the exercise of British intelligence and the sound employment of British capital. We need not dwell upon the advantages to be also derived from more intimate acquaintance with China and her productions; these are self-apparent; bnt we must not omit to point out that any extensive resort to the right of residence would render requisite a greater or lesser knowledge of the Chinese written and colloquial languages. The extent of this knowledge would not, probably, be individually

great, though it would be of daily increase, but the benefit, which it is fair to estimate would accrue from it to civilization and to commerce, might in time acquire such stupendous proportions as merely to contemplate is to desire to set on foot.

5. The foregoing is the bright side of the question of the right of inland residence; on the other hand must be viewed weighty considerations of not so pleasant a character. Points of collision would be multiplied; official expenditure would naturally be increased; and we shall not be surprised to find that both Governments shrink from a policy apparently charged with much explosive material. But nothing venture, nothing have; England's national aim is the extension of her influence and trade by every fair and honourable means; therefore let not her Representatives shun difficulties which can be overcome, to the avoidance of acquisitions which must be great, and which may prove momentous. We shall be well satisfied if Her Majesty's Government approach this delicate question in no more than a tentative spirit, so long as they do so with firmness and honesty of purpose. We would counsel their immediate obtainment of the largest measure of privilege, but their retention in their own hands of the extent to which from time to time such privilege should be accorded to the Queen's subjects. Let the area of residence be no more than periodically enlarged. Let good conduct on the part of all engaged in this inland traffic be secured by strict and onerous bond, to be set in motion, if necessary, upon mere suspicion of misbeheavour, and there will, we believe, remain little room for apprehension that either the honour of the British flag will be tarnished, or the dignity of the Chinese one be insulted. In further support of which opinion, we would point to the changes which have taken place in the foreign communities of China during the past few years. The privileges conceded by Treaty, the enforcement of which we now advocate, were at the time of their concession calculated, perhaps, to throw broadcast upon the Empire a lawless body of men, unacquainted with restraint, and amenable to no authority; for not only was the general temper of the foreign mind then exultant and unruly, but the common desire of both Imperialists and rebels to avail of them for military purposes had attracted to the shores of China a most ungovernable collection of abandoned adventurers. These, the influences of time and peace have already eliminated from amongst us; while the sobering effects of misfortune have checked the spirit of too ardent traders, and are causing all classes of men to act with prudence, and to observe caution. The present moment, therefore, seems one peculiarly fitted to put in force those rights to which by Treaty we are entitled; and which are rights, also, that could not fail to prove of lasting good to either nation.

6. We take leave of this portion of our subject, hoping that the language in which we have expressed ourselves will make clear our general impression that the success of future British commerce with China will depend mainly upon the extent to which foreign traders shall be permitted to come face to face with the people, as well as upon that to which Treaty obligations shall be respectively enforced. Yet before we proceed further, it becomes our duty in the interests of our country's trade, which are our own, to impress upon the Government that if they fail, or refuse, to secure for Englishmen the right of inland residence in China, they must not palter with the other side of the question. The high Chinese authorities have throughout suffered, or caused, Articles XII and XXVIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin to be persistently and openly violated, to the almost utter abrogation of the advantages conferred by them. In complete defiance of these Articles, foreign trade has been, and continues to be, heavily and widely taxed in excess of the stipulated transit duties; and we have consequently with much mortification often seen defeated efforts intended in the first instance to benefit ourselves, but which, had they been successful, would have likewise benefited many others We have pointed to inland residence and its adjuncts as the true remedies for these grievances and evils; and we now loudly assert that if such remedies are to be denied to us, the Queen's Government ought not to flinch from the proposition and achievement of other measures calculated to secure real freedom of foreign trade with the Chinese Emdire. We hold ourselves prepared to be reminded that mere inland residence, and mere navigation of inland waters, may not free foreign trade from illegal provincial impost or taxation to the extent which we would have represented ourselves as imagining these measures will do. We may be told that the taxes, which could not be levied upon goods protected by foreign convoy, might still, in another shape, be wrung by "mandarin" exaction from the Chinese themselves. If so, it would become the duty of Her Majesty's Ministers to devise means for, at least, the correction of this mischief, the probable development of which we, with much pain, confess; but there would be no need for them to be discouraged thereby; the evil might prove great, but from a national point of view certainly not so great as that of which we are complaining: and after all it would be an evil which those who have read thoughtfully the past well know must pale and fade away before the irrepressible advance of knowledge and civilization.

7. The better, more equitable, and certain accordance of justice by Chinese Courts to foreign plaintiffs, next urgently claims attention. By Articles XVII, XXII, and XXIII of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, the adjudication of all grievances experienced by British at the hands of Chinese subjects, was vested in the Consuls and the native officials, an appeal naturally lying to the high authorities at Pekin. This system has not worked satisfactorily at any of the ports; but save as hereinafter described, we are not prepared to suggest any amelioration of its practice, except at Shanghae. Shanghae is, we do not need to say, the most considerable seat of foreign commerce in China, and, consequently, from its dealings have arisen the great majority of English complaints against Chinese. To meet this demand for justice no sufficient provision was made by the native authorities, and at length the difficulty of obtaining even so much as an appearance of action from these functionaries, led in connection with the question of the good government of the settlement of Shanghae, to the establishment of what was, and is still, denominated the Mixed Court; that is, a Court wherein sit as co-Judges some Mandarin on the part of the Chinese, and some member of the Consulate on the part of the British. Designed at first to take cognizance particularly of police cases, the Mixed Court became from the convenience arising from it, and because of the utter want of confidence attaching to the decisions enunciated by the native authorities in their city Yamuns, a tribunal of general resort whenever plaints were laid by British against Chinese subjects. For such jurisdiction, however, the construction of the Mixed Court has shown itself essentially faulty, and it is not to be denied that when actions at law have been brought before it Englishmen have failed to obtain redress, whereas, on the other hand, Chinese rights and pretensions have been supported to the uttermost farthing. The Chinese possess a code of moral but none of civil law; all disputes concerning property or commercial obligations are decided by them according to crude, puerile notions of equity, and their officials are rarely free from at least the suspicion of bribery. As though to make this worse, the office of British co-Judge has hitherto been filled by individuals totally untrained to legal pursuits, of but moderate rank in the public service, and in receipt of salaries utterly inadequate to the grave responsibilities with which they have been charged. So constituted. the Mixed Court has proved a failure, but an improvement, nevertheless, upon the procedure that previously existed; while, without doubt, it contains the germs of a system of judicature well calculated to meet the international requirements of both countries. The Mixed Court, however, has never gained, and until reorganized never will gain, the confidence of British subjects. It behoves us, therefore, to cast about for a remedy; and this remedy we would hope to find in the complete removal, as far as can be from time to time expediently effected, of all legal jurisdiction from under Consular control, and in the immediate erection and international recognition of a Mixed Court at Shanghae, whereof the co-Judges should hold well-paid, permanent appointments, and be Magistrates of such high rank and status as that each should command attention and respect not only from his own but from the other's Government as well. It is not for us, as we have in a previous paragraph hinted, to suggest detail; that is the province of those to whom shall be entrusted the revision of the Treaty; but we believe that the object aimed at would be achieved were there to the Chinese co-Judgeship permanently appointed an official, with the rank, it might be, of Taoutai, enjoying credit and reputation amongst his own people, and to the British judicial seat a lawyer of attainments and position so good, as to cause the enforcement of his enunciations and decisions to be incumbent upon the chief diplomatic authority at Pekin. An additional Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court of China and Japan might well likewise occupy the post of British co-Judge; but, be this as it may, for the future let British co-Judges be legal gentlemen of standing so important that neglect of their dicta by the Chinese, the British Minister neither would nor could ignore. Then, and then only, will Englishmen in China place faith in the jurisdiction of Mixed Courts; while the benefits to accrue to civilization might in the end prove well worthy of Great Britain. As we have said, the Chinese possess a code of moral but none of civil law; is it not, therefore, the more necessary that the British conduct of Mixed Courts should be confided to trained jurists, from whose native colleagues' and their own concerted decisions might in time arise a definite system of international jurisprudence? Let police matters and civil causes of trivial amount be decided by subordinates; but let all important suits against Chinese be heard before such a Court as we have endeavoured to portray. We have already stated that we would prefer to see all legal jurisdiction of a civil character eliminated from amongst the duties of Consuls, whose functions and powers would then become of only an executive and criminal nature; but we are well aware that except at Shanghae the time has not yet come for the establishment of Mixed Courts. Nevertheless, one essential feature of the system might be followed at Foo-chow and the other ports with the greatest advantage; we mean the permanent appointment of a native

co-Judge to sit with the Consul upon all important occasions. From such a measure would flow certain mitigation, at least, of the delays and bad faith persistently manifested by the native provincial officials, as well as accession of dignity and authority to the Consular judicial position, because the decisions of the Consular Courts would acquire consistency and weight with the Chinese. Another subject now calls for discussion, and we proceed to it, begging your Excellency to bear in mind that the observations just made are put forward suggestively, and not as the opinions of men claiming acquaintance with juridical questions.

8. The rightful application of tonnage dues is a duty which has hitherto been grievously evaded by the Imperial authorities, and it is necessary that the fulfilment of Article XXXII of the Treaty be made compulsory upon the Chinese, as well as the powers conferred under it upon British Consuls be greatly extended. These tonnage dues now annually aggregate a very large amount indeed; much more than is at all requisite for the purposes to which alone such dues should be applied; and we are therefore of opinion that their reduction may very equitably be insisted upon.

9. We have now arrived at the last portion of our subject, namely, the revision of the Tariff. Upon this head it will not be necessary for us to address your Excellency in any detail, as, regarded in a large and general sense, the present Tariff is a just and liberal one. The articles upon which it presses unfairly are few, of minor importance, and have already been brought by others very prominently to the notice of Her Majesty's Government. We would rather advert here to five measures of general policy, which we esteem to be desirable. The first of these is the abrogation of duty upon all coal, native or foreign, a proceeding which would prove a boon of great value to the widely extending system of steam navigation in China. If the Imperial Government seek to derive revenue from the coal-mines within their territories, let them do so by means of rents or royalties, but let the distribution of the fuel be freed from all impost whatever. The unrestrained re-exportation of foreign rice may, we think, be most justly demanded by the British Government. But permission to import salt is a privilege the concession of which we have much at heart, because it would prove a measure fraught with the utmost benefit not only to foreign shipping but to the Chinese population. We would desire to interfere in no way with an institution like the Government salt monopoly; we ask no more than sufferance to bring salt to the shores of China, and there dispose of it to whomsoever the Imperial authorities may designate. Our next requisition is that the Chinese Government be prevailed upon to allow the removal of the restrictions which, by the first paragraph of the fifth "Rule respecting Trade and Dues," are imposed upon opium. We enter upon this subject with none of the delicacy or hesitation which, out of deference to the preconceived ideas of many well-meaning people, we should have experienced eight years ago. During these eight years the trade in opium has been ventilated, and old fallacies and fables have been cleared away. The horrible pictures formerly drawn of the evil to result to the population of China from the comparatively unrestrained importation of this drug are now well nigh forgotten, or mentioned only to raise a smile at their absurdity; for since 1860 it has been rendered abundantly clear that the use of opium is not a curse, but a comfort and a benefit, to the hard-working Chinese. As well say that malt is a curse to the English labourer, or tobacco one to the world at large. Misuse is one thing; use another. If to a few the opium-pipe has proved a fatal snare, to many scores of thousands, on the other hand, has it been productive of healthful sustentation and enjoyment. Were we not well assured that these statements are true we should not press this matter as we are now doing; but after the evidence of the past we feel justified in claiming that those who deal in opium shall be permitted to supply the inland Chinese with the drug as freely as they are the dwellers at the ports. We therefore again ask that the obnoxious Rule of Trade to which we have referred to may be rescinded, inasmuch as there exist no just or sensible grounds for its retention, and it must simply be regarded as a barrier to that increased tradal intercourse between India and this empire, which would prove so highly beneficial to both countries. In conclusion, we call for, as imperatively required, an extension of the period wherein foreign merchants are allowed to claim drawback of duty upon goods re-exported. At present, this period is twelve months from the date of the importation of the goods, a space of time manifestly too brief, and which might be extended to three years with perfect propriety, and with ample safety to the Chinese revenue.

10. We crave reference to paragraph No. 6 of this communication. Therein we described the motives which have prompted the views that we have expressed above, and in conclusion we beg leave to reiterate to your Excellency our belief that future British intercourse with China should be characterized by action calculated to bring about a broad

and continuous yet gradual extension of commerce; not by a policy aiming at the acquisition of small and unworthy privileges. But before we bring this Memorial altogether to an end, a grievance very pertinent to your Excellency's Government calls for notice. We allude to the Imperial Maritime Customs prohibition against transhipment in this harbour of merchandize in transit, on board of foreign bottoms, from one Treaty port to another. This restriction, while directly inimical to the interests of Hong Kong, is not really requisite to the protection of the Chinese revenue; because your Excellency is doubtless ready to devise and enforce measures which would fully secure that object. We respectfully beg, therefore, to urge upon your Excellency's attention the removal of this paltry but vexatious interdiction.

We have, &c.

(Signed) JARDINE, MATHESON AND Co.

Hong Kong, November 28, 1867.

TIEN-TSIN.

Memorial by the Tien-tsin Community to Sir R. Alcock, regarding the approaching Revision of the Treaty.

Sir,

WE have the honour to lay before your Excellency the inclosed suggestions, relative to alterations and additions, on the revision of the Treaty in 1868, and we beg, at the same time, to make the following remarks concerning them :—

Nos. 1 to 24 refer to matters of general interest, common to all the ports of China, while Nos. 1 to 5, which follow these, are limited to this locality or its neighbourhood.

1. Article VIII of the Tien-tsin Treaty. Protestant missionaries, according to the experience of some of those resident here, have found much trouble and opposition, either direct or indirect, from the Chinese officials in the country, Tung-chow is more particularly quoted; while they observe that the Roman Catholic missionaries are allowed to pursue their avocations in peace and without interference. They ask, therefore, for an equality of rights and privileges.

2. Article IX of the Tien-tsin Treaty. Experience has constantly shown that the existence of the passport system, as applied to foreigners while travelling, still remains very imperfectly known to the Chinese officials in the interior.

The value of the passport thus becomes diminished, and ceases to have its intended action as a protective document to the peaceable and lawful traveller or trader.

3 and 4. Article XII and XIV of the Tien-tsin Treaty. We would desire the most liberal construction of these two clauses, believing that, in their true spirit, it was the intention of the framers that complete access to the interior should be secured for all lawful purposes, whether of religion, commerce, or pleasure.

The argument that such access could not have been intended, because by Article XI, certain Treaty ports were distinctly specified for the purposes of trade and residence, may be met by the inquiry as to what could then have been the intention of Article XII. If trade and residence were intended to be limited to the specified Treaty ports, then its introduction clearly appears to have been unnecessary; but if the broader interpretation, which we are now endeavouring to obtain, is inapplicable, then the Article in question is a dead letter.

The right of building and owning boats to trade in the interior, is so connected with the question of buying land or houses there, that we have placed our remarks upon both subjects together.

5. Articles XXIV, XVIII, and Rule VII of the Tien-tsin Treaty. The illegal charges, often levied by petty, almost irresponsible authorities, upon goods in transit from the open ports to the districts of consumption, add so greatly to their cost, that the sale is either much diminished, or entirely ceases beyond a certain radius. They cannot, therefore, bear that fair competition with native manufactures which they would otherwise be enabled to do. And this, we think, is not in accordance with the intention of the Treaty or with that wiser policy, which would facilitate rather than obstruct, the attainment by the people of those commodities, which foreign nations can offer them better or cheaper than they can produce for themselves.

6. Article XXXII of the Tien-tsin Treaty. The use and purposes of dredging machines are too well known to require any comment of ours upon them.

7. Article XLV of the Tien-tsin Treaty. The present limit of twelve months, as the

time within which foreign imports may be re-exported, has been practically found too short, such imports sometimes requiring double that period before a sale can be effected.

It does not seem, in our opinion, that the Chinese Government could reasonably object to this proposition, as it is quite in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty, which provides that foreign goods shall only pay duty once, and that upon being re-exported they shall be protected from again paying duty by an exemption certificate.

8. The idea of throwing open all China to foreign intercourse seems a bold one, but only because we have permitted ourselves to accept, morsel by morsel, the privilege of trade and residence at a few ports on the coast; although the true spirit and object of the last Treaties was, that the whole country should be opened to Christianity and commerce in its entirety.

The extreme reluctance of the Chinese Government to accept its natural position as one only among the nations, its vain struggles against the destiny which has brought it repeatedly within the last quarter of a century into collision with its self-termed barbarian foes; the humiliation and sacrifices which have thus been entailed upon her, the gradual extension of foreigners upon her seaboard, which has resulted in the extension of their trade from one to thirteen ports, and the permanent location of foreign Envoys in her very capital, have not yet, it is believed, taught the Government that its true interest, as well as that of this immense empire, lies in a cordial and frank acceptance of the position, in encouraging the intercourse and cultivating the friendship of foreign nations; in not disdaining to learn from them those useful and practical arts, the knowledge of which would multiply the material resources of the country, add to the comforts and happiness of the people, and place her on that position of equality with other nations which her population, numerically the largest in the world, her geographical position, and her magnificent physical advantages would naturally entitle her to assume.

As an example not unworthy of her imitation we would point to the neighbouring Kingdom of Japan, opened to general intercourse with the outer world some sixteen or seventeen years, but which has eagerly embraced the opportunities and appreciated the advantages of Western intercourse. In addition to sending numerous bands of Japanese youths to Europe for instruction in foreign science, the heir apparent himself is now residing in the capital of France for the purpose of education.

Could China take heart and boldly throw the entire country open without limit or restriction, the benefits to the whole nation, as well as to foreigners, would, we believe, transcend the dreams of the most sanguine.

9. The introduction of foreign pastoral or agricultural colonists, in a country so well suited as Mongolia for such pursuits, would, while enlarging the field for capital and enterprise, not be without advantage to the inhabitants themselves.

By various accounts much of the produce, such as wool, &c., is lost or spoilt from imperfect systems of operation, and flocks and herds annually perish through the improvidence and ignorance of their owners.

10. The establishment of railways and telegraphs we consider as one of the most important, if not the most important, of all the measures which we trust are now on the eve of initiation. The incalculable benefits of cheap transit which the first would introduce; the indefinite multiplication of wealth, consequent on the interchange of products between districts which now can practically have no exchange; the low price at which produce or foreign importations could be delivered to the consumer in remote inland districts; these and many other advantages are so manifest that we need not dilate on them to your Excellency. We would mention, as being something locally near us, the wool of Mongolia, the fine iron of Shan-Hsi and the coal of the province; valuable products, the consumption and export of which are practically prohibited by the exclusive dearness of transit; the cost of which often exceeds several fold the cost of the articles themselves.

Telegraphs, in conjunction with railways would, we conceive, be one of the most potent weapons in the hands of the Government; not only giving it stability, but also giving it security against its enemies. By the first, it would receive instantaneous intelligence of disaffection, or revolt in its remotest province. By the second, troops could be transferred to the disturbed district with ease, rapidity, and economy.

The concentration of telegraph wires at the metropolis, like many reins in the hands of the charioteer, would give it command of the entire team; and enable it to control distant hostile organisations, against which it is now too often powerless. This, of itself, would go far towards pacification; and would ultimately result in the extinction of those slumbering fires of rebellion, which seem by past experience to be almost normal to the condition of many parts of China, and so hurtful to her progress.

11. The working of coal and iron mines, more especially the former, is one of great importance to the material prosperity of the country. The coal mines, according to the observations of many travellers, are worked so unskilfully as to produce but little of what they might be made to do; and chiefly surface coal only is obtained.

In this department of labour foreign science could be made available, manifestly to the benefit of the country and all concerned. In conjunction with railways, so that cost of transit would be moderate, there would be nothing to hinder a very large consumption, as well as export from, this port, thus adding very materially to its prosperity.

12. The system of bonded warehouses is beneficially employed in other countries and there seems no reason why China should fear to follow their example.

13. The inconvenience of having to receive in payment for goods, shoes of sycee of doubtful purity and value, is one often felt by the foreign merchant, and some protective remedy seems called for; we have therefore ventured the present suggestion.

14. We believe that both the Government and the people would benefit by the establishment of a fixed currency; this would necessitate the establishment of a mint. Loss by weight, in consequence of the perplexing difference of standards of weight in various parts of the empire, has now to be submitted to, both by the Government in receiving bullion payments, as well as the people in making them. A standard currency would obviate this, to the advantage of all but shroffs, or those who live by the difficulties of the present system.

15. Holders of native bank notes have now nothing on which to fall back, in the event of the suspension of the banks: an occurrence which is only too common now-a-days. Usually, when a bank or money-shop closes, nothing remains for the creditors but a little shop furniture of a very poor description, and this is mostly carried off piecemeal by those who may first arrive on the scene of action.

We think that the Government could, if it pleased, establish some kind of control, by which protection could be afforded to the creditors towards recovering part of their loss.

16. Foreign salt, introduced at an *ad valorem* duty, might safely be allowed to compete with the native article. If it could be sold of better quality and cheaper than Chinese salt, why should not the people have the option of using it? And if it could not compete with Chinese salt, the natural laws of trade would soon cause its importation to cease.

17. It seems to us not unreasonable to ask for a return of the transit duty, when the goods come back from the interior unsold. But we leave this point for your Excellency's consideration.

18. Peking has hitherto been closed to foreign trade; more, we believe, out of consideration to the feelings and prejudices of the native officials there, than from any objection on the part of the people.

The time has arrived, however, after eight years' residence in the capital by the Foreign Legations, and the ameliorating influence on Chinese mistrust and prejudice, which, it is presumed, has resulted therefrom, for the officials to be reconciled to the presence of foreigners, and the restriction, we venture to think, might now advantageously cease.

19. It would assist much in the export of coal to free it from export duty, so long as it did not leave China; this would encourage its consumption, and add also to the wealth of the country.

20. Chinese produce now pays two duties: the export duty at the port of export, and the trade duty at the port of import. The latter, we think, should be dispensed with.

21. The opening of the Yellow River to foreign trade and steam navigation would be one of the many civilizing agents which we trust to see eventually in operation.

22. While advocating direct intercourse between the foreign peoples and Chinese officials, instead of through the Consuls, as hitherto, we would remark, that we have the greatest confidence in the Consular Body; nor have we the slightest desire to see their legitimate authority shortened. But we consider that such authority might judiciously be limited to their functions as international agents; to taking cognizance of crimes, trespasses, and breaches of the law; and to action in those cases which affect the general interests of whole communities, rather than those of private individuals.

In the new era which is now, we hope, dawning on China, industrial enterprises of every description may possibly be undertaken by individuals, either singly or associated, in remote portions of the country, far from Consular protection, and to the success of which, direct and free intercourse with the local authorities might be absolutely essential. The reference and re-reference, the tedium and delays, inseparable from transacting

business through a Consular channel under such circumstances, might often be fatal to the enterprise.

We believe that at the Treaty ports, even now, the Consuls in many petty cases, of interest merely to the persons concerned, might, greatly to their own relief, yield up their present privilege of action to such persons, and allow them to prosecute their own cause with the Chinese authorities with that warmth and energy which self-interest would naturally inspire, but which they could hardly expect their Consuls to feel.

23. The Chinese Government have long laboured to prohibit both the importation and the smoking of foreign opium, as the opium war of 1840-42 sufficiently testified.

But experience at length induced them, as the lesser of two evils, to legalize its introduction; this, your Excellency is aware, was only done in the last Treaty. It was, however, curbed by restrictions which prevented it from being sent into the interior by foreigners, and which also did not recognize it as foreign owned in any place except at the Treaty ports.

But, as time has now shown, this restriction does not diminish consumption, for its importation yearly increases. We think, therefore, in respect of transit to the interior, no exception should be made between it and other foreign goods.

24. It is reasonable to believe that various products of China—and notably coal—when brought to the ports of export by cheap systems of transit, such as railways or inland steamers, must and will fall in value, or, in other words, be sold at a lower rate than at present. In such case the duties, which were originally based upon an *ad valorem* of 5 per cent., would obviously bear unjustly upon their altered and decreased value; and we think, therefore, under such circumstances, the duty should be lowered accordingly.

Local.

1. A trade and demand for coal, which at present comes from the mines at Chai Tang, in the western hills, near Peking, has commenced at this port; and the steamers which have used it speak so encouragingly of its good quality for the purposes of steam navigation, that its extended use is merely a question of cost. This almost entirely hinges upon the expense of transit, as coal which only costs taels per ton at the pit mouth, is swelled in price to taels by the time it reaches Tien-tsin.

A railway would allow it to be placed here at a moderate advance upon the original cost, and thus enable it to take its legitimate place as an export.

In the anticipated event of direct trade with England and the continent of Europe, coal would be a most useful ballast for vessels engaged in this branch of trade to take to Shanghae, or to those coast ports where they could find suitable cargoes with which to return home.

2. Docks at Taku, fit for the reception of grain and other junks, would relieve the Pei-ho, already too narrow for the traffic on its bosom, from the lumbering movements of many of the large unwieldy native crafts, which, owing to their helplessness, are a fruitful source of collision on the river—a subject which is annually becoming more momentous.

3. The dredging of the two Taku bars could be effected by the employment of proper dredging machines similar to those in use in other countries; and the increase in the trade, from vessels of large burden being able to enter the port, with the corresponding increase in the maritime revenues, would offer, in our opinion, sufficient encouragement to undertake the attendant outlay.

4. A lighthouse on the Sha-lo-teen bank has long been wanted, and its need often discussed. Its value to a commercial port needs no advocacy of ours; and we believe that the local authorities have at length recognized its importance, both as a beacon of safety to vessels, as well as an indirect means of increasing the revenue, by decreasing the dangers of approach to the port.

5. It would be a great increase of convenience in the transaction of Custom-house business, if its different departments could be concentrated under one roof, or at one place. At present, the Hai Kuan Bank, where duties have to be paid; the Customs Office, where vessels enter and clear; and the jetty or place for the examination of goods, are all widely apart. The result is an expenditure of trouble and time, which could be avoided by the adoption of the present suggestion.

In offering, with the utmost respect to your Excellency, these suggestions for the revision of the Treaty in 1868, with our remarks, we have abstained from touching upon topics, such as the privilege of Ministers to have audience with the Sovereign, which we feel can safely be confided to your Excellency's superior judgment, and have confined our-

selves to those matters which more immediately affect our general or local interests in China, and upon which we can therefore speak with the authority of experience.

At the same time we would wish to shield, in anticipation, our views from the charge of being "utopian," or "advanced;" the latter, too often, being only a synonym for impracticable.

What, we ask, is the word "advanced" but a relative term? He who is three miles in front of another, on a line of march, is relatively in advance; but he who is 100 miles in front does not consider the one who is three miles as advanced.

So it may be said to be with China, What seems advanced to her, is but ordinary progress and locomotion in the eyes of Western nations.

Our desires are for just and wise laws; just to China as well as to ourselves, and which may be alike beneficial to both sides. As equity is the sure basis of sound legislation, so is justice the root of all international compacts. And we would hope that the time has now come for this great country to rouse itself; to abandon its policy of isolation and restriction; to join the march of nations in the cause of progress and civilization; and thus reap those rich harvests of moral supremacy and material prosperity, which all past history shows has always been the reward of just, humane, and enlightened legislation.

We have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN A. T. MEADOWS, *Chairman of the Committee.*
JAMES MACKEY, *Secretary of the Committee.*

Alterations and Additions proposed for insertion in the Revised Treaty of 1868, *suggested and agreed upon at Meetings held on the* 5*th and* 18*th of November,* 1867, *by the Foreign Community of Tien-tsin.*

1. Article IX. Treaty of Tien-tsin. That all foreign teachers of Christianity be placed on equality, in every respect, as to rights and privileges which may hereafter be granted by the Chinese Government.

2. Article IX. That passports, as hitherto, be issued to foreigners, but that the Imperial Government shall be bound to make their existence throughout the empire known to every one; such having not been the case, even as regards the authorities themselves, in many parts of this region up to the present hour.

3. Article XII. That foreigners shall be at liberty to buy land or houses at any place in the Chinese Empire for lawful purposes, such as trade, propagating of religion, or for pleasure, in the most liberal construction of the spirit of Article XII of the Tien-tsin Treaty.

4. Article XIV. That foreigners shall be at liberty to build boats, and to employ them either for trade or pleasure, to go into the interior from any of the open ports, and, if used for trade, such boats to be registered accordingly, and to pay the dues which may be laid down by the revised Treaties.

5. Articles XXIV and XXVIII and Rule VII. That foreigners shall only pay duties in accordance with the stipulations of the Treaties and Tariffs, and not be required to pay any irregular or illegal charges in transit.

6. Article XXXII. That, in addition to the erection of beacons, lighthouses, and laying down of buoys, the Chinese Government provide foreign steam-dredging machines for the dredging, from time to time, of the bars and rivers at the ports where necessary.

7. Article XIV. That the period for re-exporting foreign goods shall be unlimited.

8. That, in our opinion, the whole of China proper and its dependencies should be thrown open to foreign intercourse.

9. That in every case, however, foreigners should be allowed the right and privilege to go into Eastern Turkestan, Mongolia, Kirin, and other dependencies of China; either as traders or as pastoral or agricultural settlers.

10. That the Chinese Government permit foreigners to construct and aid the formation of railways and telegraphs throughout China and its dependencies.

11. That the Chinese Government permit foreigners to own coal, iron, and other mines in China and its dependencies, and work them on foreign principles.

12. That the Chinese Government establish bonded warehouses at all the open ports.

13. That the Chinese Government compel the smelters of sycee to put the exact touch or values of the shoes of sycee on them when issued.

14. That these Chinese Government establish a mint, to issue therefrom a coinage of tael pieces, half tael pieces, quarter tael pieces, and one mace pieces.

15. That the Chinese Government place under control the native banks and money shops, so that some protection may be afforded to the holders of their notes.

16. That the Chinese Government permit the introduction of foreign salt at an *ad valorem* duty.

17. That the transit dues be returned on goods, which have been sent into the interior, when such goods come back to the port of departure unsold.

18. That Peking be open to foreign trade on the same footing as other cities in the interior.

19. That Chinese coal shall be sent to any place in China free of duty, but that if exported to a foreign country it shall pay duty *ad valorem*. Hong Kong, in this respect, shall not be considered a foreign country.

20. That Chinese produce, in transit from one open port to another, shall only pay one duty.

21. That the Chinese Government allow the Yellow River to be opened for foreign trade and foreign steam-navigation.

22. That foreigners shall have direct intercourse with the Chinese officials, without being obliged to carry it on through the Consuls, as hitherto.

23. That East Indian produce, when foreign owned, shall be allowed to be taken into the interior on exactly the same footing as any other description of goods.

24. That, in the opinion of this meeting, in the arrangement of the duties in 1868, 5 per cent. *ad valorem* should be adhered to as the basis of valuation, as hitherto; but should hereafter the values of goods become lower, owing to cheaper transit, consequent upon the introduction of railways, inland steam-navigation, &c., then the duty shall be levied in accordance with such decreased value. Wool, coal, and iron, it is believed, would be more particularly affected by any change which would cheapen transit.

Local.

1. That the Chinese Government grant permission for the construction of a railway from the coal mines at Chai-tang and neighbourhood to Peking, Tien-tsin, and Taku.

2. That the construction of docks at Taku, in which grain and other junks could discharge or load, shall be undertaken and carried out by the Chinese Government without delay.

3. That the dredging of the two Taku bars, so as to admit of the entry of vessels drawing 20 feet or more of water, be also undertaken by the Chinese Government without delay.

4. That it is desirable a lighthouse be placed upon the Sha-lo-teen bank as speedily as possible.

5. That for the greater dispatch and convenience of public business, the whole work of the Custom-house be carried on in one building.

SWATOW.

Memorial of Swatow Missionaries.

Sir, *Swatow, October* 11, 1867.

IN view of the approaching revision of the existing Treaty between Great Britain and China, we, the undersigned British Protestant Missionaries resident at Swatow, desire respectfully to call the attention of your Excellency to two particulars, a more explicit statement of which, in the revised Treaty, we consider of the very highest importance.

1. As to the holding of property by rent or purchase beyond the limits of the Treaty ports.

In the 6th Article of the French Convention there occurs the following statement: "It is, in addition, permitted to French Missionaries, to rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure." Now, by the "favoured-nation clause," British Missionaries are clearly entitled to the same privileges, but have hitherto, in repeated instances, failed to obtain them, the validity of our claim being denied by the Chinese authorities. We would, therefore, respectfully suggest the insertion of a clause to the same effect in the British Treaty.

2. As to the protection of Chinese Christians from persecution.

Such protection is guaranteed in general terms by the VIIIth Article of the Treaty, but some more definite statement on the subject is required. We would therefore suggest that, for the removal of all doubt as to the extent of protection intended, it be distinctly stated, in the revised Treaty, that Christians shall not be required, either by their own relatives or others, to contribute to the worship of any spirit or image, to the building or repairing of temples, to idolatrous processions, to theatrical performances and such like; and shall not, in consequence of declining to contribute, incur any loss of property or forfeit any of their civil rights.

Of these two particulars, the first is already secured to French Missionaries by an Article in the French Convention, and the second is secured to their converts by the explanatory edict issued by Prince Kung in the first year of the present reign.

We would, therefore, earnestly request of your Excellency that such measures may be taken as will secure to British Missionaries and their converts equal rights, not merely by implication, but by express stipulation.

We have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE SMITH.
K. L. MACKENZIE.
WILLM. GOULD.

Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

NINGPO.

Memorial from Ningpo Missionaries.

Sir,

WE, the Undersigned British Protestant Missionaries resident at Ningpo, understand that it is proposed at an early date to make a partial revision of the existing Treaties between China and Great Britain.

In view of this we beg respectfully to present to your Excellency the following suggestions with reference to the subject in which we and the Christian Churches we represent are most deeply interested.

A clause in the VIth Article of the Convention between France and China, signed at Pekin, October 25, 1860, states: "It is, in addition, permitted to French Missionaries to rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure."

This provision of the French Convention, as your Excellency is aware, is not contained in the Treaties between Great Britain and China. It is our opinion, nevertheless, that according to the simple wording of Article XII, and by the operation of Article LIV (commonly known as the favoured-nation clause), the privileges thus granted to French Missionaries are equally accorded to Missionaries from Great Britain.

Since, however, high authorities of our nation have felt constrained to construe these Articles in a contrary sense, and since it is a well-known fact that the Chinese authorities, whether backed by such sanction, or from actual ambiguity in the wording of the Treaty, have denied or called in question the validity of the claim to these rights by British Missionaries, we deem it a matter of the utmost importance that such ambiguity should be promptly removed.

We therefore earnestly pray your Excellency to adopt such measures as may commend themselves to your judgment, to obtain in the proposed revision of the Treaty between Great Britain and China, a definite recognition of the right of British Missionaries "to preach and propagate the doctrines of Christianity throughout the length and breadth of the Chinese Empire, and to rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure."

Without fear of incurring the charge of bigotry, we beg also to record our opinion that by the wording of the existing Treaty, the essential differences between Protestant and Roman Catholic Christianity, differences too becoming more and more widely known and recognized amongst the Chinese, are practically ignored.

This is a matter which we must leave to your Excellency's judgment, rather than venture to offer suggestions. If, however, either by a repetition of the clauses in favour of the two religions or by any other means, the holy religion of Jesus and the religion of the Lord of Heaven, though equally favoured, could yet be separately recognized and

individually noticed, we are of opinion that a second source of ambiguity would be removed from the Treaty.

We have, &c.

(Signed) CHAS. H. HUDSON.
WILLM. R. FULLER.
SAMUEL DODD.
GEORGE D. STOTT.
J. MARA.
J. BATES.
JAMES MEADOWS.
A. E. MOULE.

Sir R. Alcock, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

CHINA.

MEMORIALS addressed by Chambers of Commerce in China to the British Minister at Peking, on the subject of the Revision of the Treaty of Tien-tsin.

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 5½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

DISTURBANCES IN CRETE:

1867.

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1867.

LONDON:
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ERRATUM.

At p. 205, No. 216, *for* "Mr. Ellis to Lord Lyons," *read* "Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley."

Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete.

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867).

No. 1.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 28.)

(Extract.) *Paris, December* 27, 1866.

I INFERRED from a conversation which I had yesterday with Baron de Budberg that the Russian Government were about to propose to the other Powers to take some action in the Eastern question based on the present condition of affairs in Crete.

On seeing M. de Moustier to-day, I told him the general impression which I had derived from M. de Budberg's language.

M. de Moustier replied that he had already made some communications on this subject to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, and was about to address further instructions to his Excellency for communication to your Lordship. In the meanwhile he would tell me frankly what he thought on the subject. The project of constituting Crete a Princedom, somewhat similar to that of Servia, was one that had not yet been considered fully by the Imperial Government, but it appeared to him to enter into the category of measures which, after due consideration, might be advantageously suggested to the Porte.

His Excellency concluded by reiterating his intention of communicating on this subject with the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, and assured me that the French Government would take no action in Eastern affairs without previous concert with that of Her Majesty.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Fane.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, December* 29, 1866.

THE Russian Ambassador called upon me this afternoon and discussed with me at some length the position of Greece and Turkey in regard to the Cretan question.

He appeared to be under the impression that M. de Moustier had made to Her Majesty's Government some formal proposition with a view to the conciliation of the island, and to preventing the further spread of the civil war.

I assured him this was not the case, though from certain passages in your despatch of the 27th instant I had reason to think that some such proposition was in contemplation.

Baron Brunnow did not seem to wish, on the part of his Government, to take the initiative in making any proposal. He agreed with me that as such an overture was to be expected, it would be better to wait for it before proceeding to enter upon a general discussion of the subject.

Much conversation passed between us, but as this was hardly of an official character, I will only observe that the Baron's views appeared to be marked by great moderation, and a sincere desire to put an end to the present unhappy state of things.

No. 3.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 4, 1867.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, December* 26, 1866.

I MENTIONED to his Highness some of the particulars reported in Mr. Consul Dickson's despatch of the 10th instant.* I dwelt particularly on the danger and apparent inutility of employing the native Mussulmans as irregulars, and I spoke in strong language of the fear expressed by Mr. Dickson that no quarter would be given to foreigners. I conjured Aali Pasha not to omit any possible precaution against the continuance of such a frightful state of things as Mr. Dickson described. If only as a matter of policy it was, I said, as essential for the Porte to show that it could conduct hostilities in a civilized manner as that it could put down rebellion by force; if, as was asserted, acts of atrocity were committed equally on both sides, that only made the case more painful; the spectacle would be too shocking to be endured patiently by Europe.

No. 4.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 4.)

(Extract.) *Paris, January* 3, 1867.

I ASKED the Marquis de Moustier to-day whether he had drawn up the despatch relative to the affairs of Crete and to the suggestions which might be made to the Porte in regard to the future government of the island, which he had told me that he was about to communicate through the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne to your Lordship.

His Excellency replied that he had not yet written the despatch in question, because, learning from the Duc de Gramont that Prince Metternich on his return to Paris would be charged to make a communication on the part of the Austrian Government in reference to the general condition of the Turkish Empire, he had thought it better to defer his despatch until he was acquainted with the views of the Austrian Government.

No. 5.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 25.)

(Extract.) *Paris, January* 24, 1867.

I SAW M. de Moustier late this afternoon, and communicated to him the substance of your Lordship's instructions to Lord Lyons, conveyed in your despatch to his Lordship of the 17th instant,† relative to the advice offered to the Porte by Her Majesty's Government in regard to the state of affairs in Crete.

M. de Moustier listened to this communication with great attention.

He said that he had now come to the conclusion that it would be far better for the Porte to give up Candia than to seek to conciliate the Christian population by giving some form of local autonomy to the island. He believed that the country was lost to Turkey, and that it would be better for the Sultan to accept this conclusion than to grant concessions which would not permanently reconcile the population to Turkish rule, while they would form a precedent on which every part of the Turkish Empire might found a claim to quasi independence. Crete, his Excellency said, had become a permanently sore limb of the Empire, and it was better to amputate it than to allow it to form the nucleus of grangrene, which might spread to every part of the Empire.

I combated this conclusion at considerable length, pointing out to his Excellency that, if every part of the Empire in which agitation could be excited was to be considered as an incurably sore limb, the process of amputation might be applied till nothing but the trunk was left, which could scarcely be expected to exist after being thoroughly dismembered.

M. de Moustier admitted the serious nature of the proposition he had laid down, but said that he felt convinced that the course he had suggested was the wisest which the Sultan could adopt. He added that, if he were himself in the Sultan's position, he would not hesitate also to abandon Thessaly.

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 124.

† Ibid, page 157.

I asked what his Excellency proposed should become of the Island of Candia when abandoned by the Porte: was it to be annexed to the Kingdom of Greece?

M. de Moustier replied that he thought that was the only plan to be now adopted.

I asked his Excellency what instructions, under the circumstances, he had given to the French Ambassador at Constantinople; to which he replied that hitherto he had confined himself to directing M. Bourrée to call the attention of the Porte to the necessity of devising measures for putting an end to the troubles in Crete, and he should await the receipt of despatches he was expecting from that Ambassador before furnishing him with more precise instructions.

No. 6.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Fane.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, February* 1, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called and communicated to me the substance of a despatch which he had this day received from his Government on the subject of Crete.

The French Government, while advising the Porte to consent to the autonomy of Crete, as a compromise to which Russia also, though reluctantly, might be brought to assent, was nevertheless fully alive to the difficulties inherent in this proposal, did not deceive itself as to the inconveniences which might result from its adoption, and felt throughout that the labour which would be required to obtain even this concession from Turkey was disproportionate to the importance of the object when achieved. It would not be easy to find a Christian Governor who would at once satisfy the Porte and be on good terms with the people. Moreover this plan, even supposing it to work well, would not satisfy the Greek nation, which had been worked up to a state of violent excitement, the result of which might even be a war with Turkey.

I told Prince La Tour d'Auvergne that it was impossible for me to give an immediate reply to a communication of so much importance; but there was one remark which he must allow me to make, viz., that a very short time had elapsed since he, in the name of the Emperor, had pressed upon Her Majesty's Government the expediency of joining with that of France in recommending the plan of autonomy which M. Moustier now appeared to regard as so unsatisfactory. Yet in that brief interval no important event had occurred, the situation was in all respects the same, the prospects of the insurgents in Crete were, to say the least, not more encouraging than they were a month ago, and all the arguments now used by M. Moustier, the force of which I did not deny, were equally valid then. It seemed to me that there would be a want of dignity and consistency in recalling as it were the advice which we had agreed to give only a few weeks ago, and adopting a totally different policy before we could even know what reception our former communications had met with. Nor could I conceal from him my opinion that the Porte, having, as it believed, put down by force of arms the insurrection directed against its authority, would at once, and decidedly, refuse to sacrifice a province which it had reconquered at the cost of so much blood and treasure. But if so, and if, as we were agreed, nothing like pressure or coercion was to be used, where was the advantage of giving advice which we knew would not be taken?

Some further conversation ensued, and it was settled that the matter should again be discussed between us at an early opportunity.

No. 7.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 8.)

My Lord, *Athens, January* 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of the bulletin issued by the Central Cretan Committee in regard to the news received by the last mail from Crete.

The Greeks are, almost without an exception, much elated by this intelligence, and they now speak very confidently of the prospects of the war. The only doubts I hear expressed are as to the possibility of feeding the insurgents. In his last letters Zimbrakaki does not make the least allusion to the want of fresh volunteers, but only says, "For God's sake send us provisions."

The Sfakiotes, it is alleged, have not accepted the proposals of Mustapha Pasha, and

persist in their intention to fight to the last. They hold Franco Castelli and San Rumeli. Mustapha Pasha has not been able to penetrate further than the village of Sfakia, on the coast, where the Cretans can do nothing on account of the vessels of war, but the Sfakiotes being all agreed, should he attempt to force their almost impregnable fastnesses, he will certainly be beaten.

According to another account, dated Canea, January 23, fighting had been resumed with Mehmet Pasha, near Prosnero, in Apokorona, in the north-western portion of the island.

Coroneos has left Sfakia for Episkopi and Preveli, in the Province of Retimo, to join Petropaolaki and the Mainiotes, who are said to occupy a strong position in the village of Anoya, at the foot of Mount Ida.

In the western half of the island little or no grain can have been sown this year. It is, therefore, fearful to contemplate the misery which must be entailed upon the unfortunate inhabitants by this protracted struggle.

Even if a pacification of some sort can be accomplished ere long, it will, under these circumstances, be necessary to import grain from abroad to feed nearly one-half of the population of the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

P.S., *January* 31.—I add likewise a translation of the bulletin just issued by the Cretan Commission, in regard to the last intelligence received from Crete, and which is dated the 27th instant.

E. M. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Bulletin of the Athens Central Cretan Commission.

(Translation.) *Athens, January* 27, 1867.

OUR latest news from the General Assembly is up to the 20th, and from the camp in the eastern provinces to the 17th January.

The Assembly writes as follows on the subject of the departure of certain volunteers:—

"This foolish act must not cause you any anxiety, as their departure only betters the condition of the insurrection, which, with the natives and the remaining volunteers, will be better organized and rendered more vigorous. About this affair we have sent a written communication to the Consuls at Canea, in which we show how this came about."

The Assembly terminates this communication as follows:—

"The insurrection is now as strong as ever, notwithstanding all opinions to the contrary circulated by evil-disposed persons; and the decision of the inhabitants of Crete, in spite of the misery and barbarous treatment of the enemy, is as steadfast as it was originally; that is to say, 'Union or death!'"

Since the first attack at Agia Roumeli by the Turks, another has taken place, which still continued on the day the Assembly wrote; besides the Sfakiotes, the inhabitants of Selinos, Lakos, Kissamos, and Apokorona took part in this attack.

Having come to an understanding with all the native military Chiefs in the district of Canea, who were labouring in concert and with great courage, Zimbrakaki, with his corps, was proceeding to Agia Roumeli by Omalos.

In the eastern provinces, after the battle of Rodia, in which 10 of our people were either killed or wounded, and the enemy had, according to their own account, sustained a loss of 178 men, the Turks withdrew into the fortress.

After this battle, Petropoulakis, MM. Korokas, Skoulas, Datidanis, Romanos, and other military Chiefs of the province collected at the strong position of Anoya of Milopotamos; from thence they write that they have distributed all the arms and ammunition in the Provinces of Milopotamos, Agio-Basilio, Kakourion, Malevision, and Temenos, and they reckon their strength at 14,800 men. From thence they meditate an attack upon the enemy.

Byzantios had arrived at Anoya. Coroneos being convalescent, and having visited the Assembly, and come to an understanding with them, left for the camp of Milopotamos.

From all the information, and from many letters which the Commission has received, it is evident that the insurrection is flourishing and holds out. They all express the conviction that on fine weather setting in, their efforts will be more successful.

(From the office of the Central Commission.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 7,

Bulletin of the Athens Central Cretan Commission.

(Translation.) *Athens, January* 31, 1867.

SINCE our last bulletin the state of affairs in Crete has hardly undergone any change. Our latest news is up to the 27th instant. A portion of the Turkish force still remains on the coast of Sfakia, unable to proceed further into the country. Details as to the attacks made on the 18th, 19th, and 20th instant by the Sfakiotes confirm the intelligence that the result was favourable to our people and to their courage and decision.

Amongst other things, they write from Sfakia as follows:—

"During the attack which took place on the 20th, the Turkish Bey, encamped close to the sea-shore, desirous to give a helping hand to those who were at Samaria, sent a reinforcement of 200 Ottomans and Albanians, but of these only 30 were able to reach their destination, the rest being killed and wounded by our people.

"In the eastern provinces, in the position of Anemomilo, of the village Delissi, in the Province of Milopotamos, an encounter took place, in which our people attacked 1,500 Turks, who had 2 guns, and drove them from their positions, and took from them a number of sheep which they were guarding."

(From the office of the Central Commission.)

No. 8.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 11)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 25, 1867.

I PREVIOUSLY had occasion to advert to the carrying out honestly the Firman of 1856, as a means of satisfying the reasonable demands of the Cretans.

Bearing in mind the instruction to observe a careful neutrality, I now merely beg leave to set forth the reasons which then induced me to recommend that measure. In the first place, the Cretan Christians, as your Lordship is aware, originally petitioned for the due execution of that Firman; even a non-compliance with their request, it would appear, has since led to the present catastrophe. In the second place, it has occurred to me that in a Turkish Christian province, as Crete may properly be designated to be, where, moreover, animosities engendered between one portion of its population against the other by difference of creed, race, and interests, yet not of language, and enhanced hitherto by local ignorance and, possibly too, misgovernment, exist,—whether Christian and Mahometan might not be reconciled to each other on the principle that there are no bodies, however refractory, that may not be attracted by the aid of certain agents into one cohesive compound to gravitate towards one centre.

This would have seemed to me to be a process far more compatible with the ideas of modern civilization and humanity than that, may be, of merely civilizing off the face of the island one element of the population in favour of the exclusive predominance of the other.

The agents to be thus employed, I need hardly add, would be the conceding of equal rights, a code of equitable laws, tribunals, a revision of taxation, schools, the construction of roads, &c.; all of which reforms are duly provided for in the Charter in question, and which I venture to characterize as the crowning work of the labours of Lord Lyons' noble predecessor.

If, after a lapse of time and the Firman in question having been thus practically tested, proved to be a failure, then, I humbly conceive, the whole island might be better prepared for some other remedial change, which it is not my province to decide, but the recommendation of which must rest with Her Majesty's Diplomatic Representative.

Trusting your Lordship would excuse the liberty I have taken in making the above remarks, I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 9.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 27, 1867.

YOUR Lordship will have been informed, before this despatch reaches you, of the French despatch-boat "La Salamandre" having taken to the Piræus from Lutrò, 60

volunteers, while the Ottoman ship "Talia" conveyed 325 more. Another Turkish ship, a frigate, escorted the "Talia."

It appears that the Commander of the "Salamander" did not, originally, intend to proceed with the volunteers either to the Piræus or Syra. The company of the two Turkish ships, coupled with the desire expressed by the Imperial Commissioner, induced Captain Lejeune to act otherwise.

The "Salamander" returned to Canea on the evening of the 25th instant.

The "Fourbain," French corvette, steamed past this port on the 26th, bound eastward.

The Ottoman steamer "Izzeddin" from Constantinople, entered Suda Bay on the 24th instant, with Server Effendi and two staff-officers on board, who immediately left for the head-quarters of the Imperial Commissioner.

The report of the landing of 400 volunteers at Akti, in Kissamos District, on the 17th instant, has not been confirmed.

On the night of the 25th, about 400 troops with ten field-pieces were conveyed from Canea to Sfakia in a transport.

In the Province of Retimo a nucleus of insurrection is maintained within the mountainous district of St. Vassili. The same may be said to be the case with the mountains of Anoya in Candia province.

The Imperial Commissioner has, if I am rightly informed, just concluded an armistice with the Sfakiotes, whereby their district is to be evacuated by the troops, with the exception of a body of Albanian Irregulars in the town of Sfakia to act as a police, their arms to be left to them, &c. On the other hand, they bind themselves not to harbour any volunteers or to receive any supplies, arms or ammunition from Greece.

Mustapha Pasha is expected to return to Canea in a few days hence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 10.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, February* 13, 1867.

BARON BRUNNOW showed me some days ago a letter from Prince Gortchakoff, stating in language similar to that which he had used to Sir A. Buchanan, as reported in the latter's despatch of the 30th ultimo,* the anxiety of the Russian Government that a joint communication should be made to the Porte with the view of inducing it to agree to allow foreign ships of war to take away from Crete such Christians as might desire to leave the island.

Baron Brunnow was informed in reply that Her Majesty's Government had approved the language used by Sir A. Buchanan in explaining to Prince Gortchakoff the objections to which such a measure was open.

The Prussian Ambassador called upon me to-day, and having read to me Prince Gortchakoff's letter, he went on to say that the King of Prussia agreed with the Russian Government that it was desirable to induce the Porte by the common action of the Powers to rescind the determination which it had announced to the Russian Minister at Constantinople only to allow volunteers to be removed from Crete by foreign ships of war, and not to sanction the indiscrimate removal of the Christian population.

I told Count Bernstorff that I was imperfectly informed as to the facts of the case, and as to the extent to which the Christians might desire to leave the island. As far as regards volunteers, the Porte, it seemed, was content that they should profit by the offer to transport them to some other quarter; and as fighting appeared to be at end, it was very probable that this class of persons might wish to return from whence they came. But Her Majesty's Government had no reliable information as to the extent to which native Christians desired to emigrate from Crete, or as to the quarter to which they might wish to be conveyed.

I must decline, therefore, I said, to express any opinion as to the fitness of the proposition made by Prince Gortchakoff until I should learn from your Excellency what the facts of the case really were.

Her Majesty's Government would not be indisposed to associate themselves with foreign Powers in an act of humanity, if that were the whole object and effect of the

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 183.

Russian proposal; but as matters now stood, I could not, in the absence of information from your Excellency, desire you to take part in any collective representation to the Porte on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 11.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 14.)

My Lord, *Athens, February* 1, 1867.

I CALLED this morning on M. Tricoupi and read to him your Lordship's despatch of the 14th ultimo* (which reached me yesterday only by post), repeating that the British Government will not seek to avert from Greece any consequences in which she may become involved by reason of her violation of international duties.

M. Tricoupi replied that he must still maintain that Great Britain is bound by Treaty under certain circumstances to guarantee the integrity of Greece, and he could not admit that the Hellenic Government had yet done or intended to do anything which would justify Her Majesty's Government in withdrawing that guarantee. I reminded M. Tricoupi of the encouragement given to the insurrection in Crete by the open and undeniable enrolment of volunteers at Syra and their embarkation in a steamer which was convoyed part of the way by the Hellenic frigate "Hellas," and I recapitulated the facts of the case in such terms as to leave no doubt upon M. Tricoupi's mind as to the nature of the act complained of; adding that in the event of a repetition of such acts Her Majesty's Government had declared, and now instructed me to renew the declaration, that the Hellenic Government would alone be responsible for the consequences, whatever they might be.

M. Tricoupi said that he was not sufficiently well acquainted with the details of this occurrence to admit or deny the accuracy of the statement I had made; but that as Greece recognized the Cretan insurgents as belligerents, the Hellenic Government had a right to afford protection in their own waters to a vessel which might even be conveying warlike stores to Crete; that with respect to the armed men on board, there was no law in Greece which enabled the Government to put a stop to their enlistment or embarkation.

I replied that, in the first place, I now heard for the first time that the Cretans were recognized by this country as belligerents, but that even if they were so recognized, and no Foreign Enlistment Law were in existence, the Greek Government were bound to lose no time in bringing their legislation into harmony with the public law of Europe, and that if they neglected to do so Turkey might hold them responsible for the omission. But M. Tricoupi altogether repudiated any such inference, stating that he should in due time be prepared to show, by English and American authorities, that in time of war a neutral State might be justly taxed with a breach of neutrality for altering its laws in such a manner as injuriously to affect the interests of either of the belligerents.

M. Tricoupi added, however, that to prove to me that the Greek Government had no wish to provoke a rupture with Turkey, they were deliberating as to the expediency of removing a body of about 400 Cretan volunteers who were now at Syra; and that the "Hellas" frigate would very probably be sent there with two companies of infantry, to compel these men to embark for conveyance to the Peloponnesus.

I did not think it necessary to point out to M. Tricoupi the inconsistency of now doing the very thing which he had previously declared his inability to do; but if this measure is carried into effect it will form a useful precedent hereafter.

I need scarcely inform your Lordship, that if these men are compelled to return to their homes, it must be ascribed rather to the difficulty of landing them in Crete, at the present moment, and, feeding them when there, and also to the serious complaints which have been raised by the people of Syra against their prolonged stay in that town, than to any increased desire to observe a strict neutrality in the pending contest.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

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* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 156.

No. 12.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 14.)

My Lord, *Athens, February* 1, 1867.

I HAVE this day communicated to M. Tricoupi your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo,* stating that even if Her Majesty's Government had seen reason to alter the decision which has been taken in regard to the removal of Cretan fugitives, the necessity of so doing was now less, as they might be received on board the American squadron.

M. Tricoupi said that he regretted this decision on the part of Her Majesty's Government, as the American squadron, although still expected, had not yet made its appearance in Cretan waters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 13.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 15.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, February* 6, 1867.

I WENT the day before yesterday to Aali Pasha, and recited to him nearly word for word your Lordship's despatches of the 17th ultimo,† tendering to the Porte the advice of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the future government of Crete.

Aali Pasha observed that it was impossible for the Porte to admit for a moment the principle that the fact that the Christians in any particular district constituted a majority of the inhabitants was a sufficient reason for establishing a Christian Governor in that district. Such a principle would overthrow the authority of the Sultan at Constantinople itself. He begged the friends of Turkey to have a little patience about Crete. The firman of which Server Effendi was the bearer would soon be published in the island. The delegates who would be invited by it to come to Constantinople to represent the wants and wishes of the inhabitants would probably arrive here in a short time. The Porte would do all in its power to restore and increase the prosperity of the island. To the establishment of schools, to the improvement of roads, harbours, &c., and to all matters of a similar kind, the Porte was ready to give full aid and encouragement. It would do all it could to satisfy the Christian inhabitants and promote their welfare, but it could not, and would not, establish in the island a political system different from that under which the other provinces of the Empire were governed. To do so would lead in a very short time to the dismemberment of the Empire, and the destruction of the authority of the Sultan. He trusted that the Powers which professed to be friendly to the Ottoman Government would at least give it time to try its own plan for making Crete tranquil and prosperous. All the accounts which reached the Porte represented the insurrection as in fact at an end. Some scattered bands of foreign volunteers had not yet been captured or got rid of, but the authority of the Government was disputed only in the spots actually occupied by these bands. He felt confident that the Porte would in a short time be able to settle the whole question satisfactorily.

I did not conceal from Aali Pasha that I was far from being as sanguine as he was with regard to the success of the Porte in restoring tranquillity in Crete, and satisfying the Christian inhabitants by the measures he contemplated. I proceeded to say very nearly in the words used in your Lordship's despatch, that the advice given by Her Majesty's Government was tendered in a spirit of sincere friendship, and with the fullest conviction that it was sound. It was not, I observed, without much consideration that Her Majesty's Government had determined to offer their counsels on this occasion. They utterly repudiated all idea of interfering with the right of the Porte to exercise an independent judgment in its internal affairs. They had discharged their duty in offering honest and friendly advice. It rested with the Porte and not with them to determine whether that advice should be acted upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

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* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 167.

† Ibid, pag 57 and 159.

No. 14.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 15.)

(Extract.) *Athens, February 6, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, reporting that the Greek steamer "Panhellenion" has again set out for Crete with a full cargo of stores and 200 volunteers. No intelligence has yet been received as to the result of this fresh attempt to run the blockade, but it is thought that the "Panhellenion" will have some difficulty on the present occasion in finding any point of the coast suitable for her purpose.

I likewise inclose an extract from another letter from Mr. Lloyd, giving me his opinion as to the prospects of the insurrection, which appeared to me of some interest on account of the opportunity he has had of watching the progress of this contest.

The "Hellas" has not been sent to Syra as M. Tricoupi had led me to believe would be the case, and I confess that I am at a loss to understand what is going on with respect to the volunteers for Crete. One day a steamer arrives at the Piræus with 400 volunteers from Syra, and on the next she returns to Syra with a batch of 150 of the same or other volunteers, who proceed immediately to Crete. Another day a Government steamer is sent to Kalamata with 150 volunteers, whilst on the same day a large body of volunteers is landed at the Piræus from the same place, and it was only last night that the senior officer at the Piræus reported to me that 150 volunteers had been landed there on their way to Crete from Laconia. I can only suppose that the Government are shifting these men about from place to place to create confusion, and to prevent the Turkish Minister from ascertaining very positively what is going on in this respect.

P.S., February 7.—Since writing this despatch I have received a letter from Mr. Consul Lloyd, extract from which is herewith inclosed, reporting the safe return of the "Panhellenion" to Syra, after landing her men and stores at Cape Acti on the west coast of Crete.

Inclosure 1 in No. 14.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, February 2, 1867.*

THE "Patris" returned here last night from Piræus, bringing back some 150 volunteers under Papachoni (of Maïna). The "Panhellenion" was already laden with biscuits, shoes, trousers, flannels, bales of leather, dried cod-fish, herrings, tobacco, and ball cartridges; also drugs and medicines with a Cretan doctor; and the above volunteers went on board with 50 others that were already here; and the "Panhellenion" left as soon as all were on board. She goes to Cerigo; I hear thence to wherever she may find a safe landing-place on the south coast, though, as she has never yet gone to the spot where she was expected or ordered to go, it is difficult to guess where she will go now. If she succeed this time it will be a sort of *contre-coup* for the late return of the volunteers to Piræus.

No more volunteers for Crete are to be received here, nor sent hence, so it is said, but that if any are to go they must be sent to Cerigo, and the "Panhellenion" will go and take them thence; the merchants here have had and seen enough of them. During the theatre row the other night, when women were frightened to stay and equally frightened to leave the theatre, a cry was raised outside for soldiers to go and protect the bank. Now the town is as quiet as it can be.

Inclosure 2 in No. 14.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, February 3, 1867.*

WITHOUT an intervention of the foreign Powers I do not see how an end is to be put to the war of extermination that is going on. The Turks cannot prevent the Greeks landing volunteers and provisions, and for every one volunteer that wishes to leave there are two or more ready to go. Were they all to leave or be destroyed, and the natives surrender, the insurrection would break out again; were the natives ready to surrender now, the volunteers would always keep up the insurrection.

The returned volunteers give very gloomy accounts of what they have suffered, all true enough I dare say, else they would not have returned; also that they were neglected, nay robbed and ill-treated by the native Cretans, which is likely enough, and when we know what the Greeks are among themselves, Cephalonians with Ithacans, Moreotes with those of the continent, &c., &c., it is not to be wondered at. The Cretans know the Greeks want Crete for Greece not for the Cretans, and the Cretans want the help of the Greeks only to get rid of the Turks; and having been laid under contribution for provisions, &c., both by Turks and volunteers, of course when they get the chance they take and keep for themselves the provisions, &c., the volunteers bring with them. But for all this the matter of Crete is of such vital importance to the Greeks, in order to stave off a crisis, not to say, I fear, anarchy and confusion in Greece, that *coute qui coute* the Greeks will keep up the insurrection unless they (the Greeks) be prevented by the other Powers, which would be an intervention; they feel too the Powers will not allow Turkey to make war—destroy Greece—as that would be allowing to be undone all they have been doing the last thirty years—so they (the Greeks) judge it is a safe game for them so long as they can only keep up the insurrection; and the Cretans, when it suits them, can always say they are ready to submit to the Porte, but the Greeks will not let them. They may even reproach the Turks with allowing them to be thus oppressed by the volunteers, so that unless Turkey can be persuaded or forced to make concessions, or Greece be prevented from meddling, I see no end to the butchery that is and will be going on; as the volunteers will always be replaced, but the Cretans will gradually disappear.

Inclosure 3 in No. 14.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, February 5*, 1867.

THE "Panhellenion" arrived here last night about 11 P.M. She left this early on the morning of Saturday last for Milos to take a pilot; but the Demarch of Milos, who had notice of the approach of the vessel, sent out a boat to warn the captain not to enter the port, as there was a Turkish corvette there, and also not to go to Cerigo, as there was also a Turkish vessel there, but go direct to Crete; so the "Panhellenion" went direct to Acti (marked in the Admiralty chart), on the west coast of Crete, where she arrived at about 11 P.M. the same day, Saturday. The weather was bad, high sea and rain, but the volunteers and most of the cargo were landed; only a boat struck on the rocks and some two or three volunteers were drowned they say, the boat having sunk but not in very deep water. Some barrels of salt meat were thrown overboard, and some bread has been brought back, also a family of five souls.

The "Panhellenion" remained till about 3 A.M. before she came away, and had she stayed longer many families would have come down and gone on board, but the weather was bad, and the captain feared in case of change of wind, being driven on the coast.

The "Panhellenion," met with no Turkish cruizer anywhere, but was obliged to run and anchor somewhere in Vatika Bay till yesterday morning.

No. 15.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord, *Corfu, January 30*, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant,* acquainting me, in reply to mine of the 24th ultimo, that on due consideration of the motives by which I was actuated, and looking to all the circumstances of the case and to the difficulty of my position, you are good enough not to disapprove my conduct for the part I took in procuring the removal, by Her Majesty's ship "Assurance," of a number of helpless Cretan women and children, some aged and wounded men, whose lives were in jeopardy at a very critical time, and who were all besides suffering severely from hunger and cold, and therefore desirous of quitting the island.

I am moreover informed with reference to my despatch of the 26th ultimo, that your Lordship declined sanctioning any collective interference, as then suggested by me, of the Consular body between the Turkish authorities and the insurgents.

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 150.

Bearing in mind the injunction already conveyed to me by Her Majesty's Government, I can only now further assure your Lordship that I will studiously avoid being led into any course of action incompatible with the neutral character which it is incumbent upon me to uphold.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 16.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February 4, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Imperial Commissioner, with the expeditionary force under his personal command, and numbering about 8,000 men, entered this city the day before yesterday.

His Highness having left the small town of Sphakia, where his head-quarters had been established, marched, unmolested, through Askyfo and Prosnero.

On reaching Krapi, however, some skirmishing occurred with a band of volunteers. The whole of Sphakia, I have reason to believe, is tranquil.

Mehmed Pasha is still in occupation of Prosnero, with some five battalions under his command. As far as I am able to learn, many of the Cretan families who had sought refuge in Sphakia have since returned to their villages.

According to official intelligence recently arrived, an engagement took place at Anoya, on the 28th ultimo, between a band of volunteers and insurgents, commanded by Colonel Coroneos, and a body of troops under Reshid Bey. The former having been dislodged, the village of Anoya, which is described as a strong position, has since been occupied by the Imperial troops. It is, moreover asserted, that Candia Province is quiet.

Two Egyptian steamers, the "Serkia" and "Demihon," arrived here on the 31st ultimo, from Alexandria. One of these brought Hassan Pasha, aide-de-camp to the Viceroy of Egypt.

The Russian frigate "Grand Admiral" returned here on the 28th from the Piræus.

The Italian corvette "Princess Clotilda," left Suda Bay on the 29th, bound to Smyrna.

It is asserted that several hundred volunteers are waiting for being embarked at Retimo and Candia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 17.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, February 12, 1867.*

ON my calling yesterday on Prince Gortchakoff, his Excellency said that he presumed I had brought him a communication which he would receive with great regret, as he had been prepared by Baron Brunnow to learn that Her Majesty's Government had approved the language which I had held to him, as reported in my despatch of the 30th ultimo, as to the inexpediency of Her Majesty's ships being employed for removing refugees from Crete.

I replied that your Lordship had not thought it necessary to send me any further instructions on this subject, but I was aware that Her Majesty's Government had learnt from Lord Lyons that the Greek Minister at Constantinople had been informed by the United States' Minister that all refugees who might present themselves would be received on board the ships of the American squadron, which has been ordered to Candia for that purpose; and I said his Excellency had therefore no cause for regretting the decision of Her Majesty's Government on the ground that it would add to the sufferings of women and children who might be desirous of escaping from Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 18.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 19.)

My Lord, *Athens, February 9, 1867.*

THE Ottoman Minister at this Court has had the goodness to show me the last Report he has received from Canea, which is dated the 4th instant, and which is, on the whole, very similar to that of Mr. Consul Dickson of the same date. It speaks of the insurrection as being now definitively quelled, and of the Imperial troops as being engaged in the pursuit of a few "vagabonds" and "brigands" who are lurking in the most inaccessible parts of the mountains. But this Report alludes also to two engagements with these "vagabonds," in which the Turks are admitted to have lost, in one case, fifteen killed (amongst whom an Egyptian Lieutenant-Colonel) and fifty-four wounded, and in the other, eight killed and sixteen wounded.

On the other hand, Her Majesty's Consul at Syra informs me that Mr. Stillman, the American Consul at Canea, represents the news of the week as rather favourable than otherwise to the insurgents. There had, he says, been three engagements since Mustapha Pasha left Agia Rumeli; one at Anoya, which lasted four days, and in which the Turks lost a good many men; one at Askyfo, and one in the Province of Retimo, of which the result was still unknown. The volunteers were suffering much from want of provisions, but were said to be fighting well.

Lieutenant Murray, in a letter to me of the 3rd instant, says, "Mustapha Pasha and the remains of his shattered army came into Canea last night. Finding he had not the slightest chance of getting into Sphakia by force of arms, he thought the best way would be to treat. . . . . Accordingly various concessions were offered, which were accepted by the Sphakiotes, who, in consideration of these concessions, were to take no further part in the insurrection, and were not to give protection to the volunteers, and were to allow the troops to return through Sphakia by the Pass of Askyfo. The troops are in a most wretched condition, half-naked, starved, without shoes, and suffering much from sickness. . . . . A hundred resolute men could not only have kept them out of Sphakia, but, if once in, could have annihilated them. . . . .

"Although Sphakia may be said to be quiet now, the other districts are far from it. Selino and Kissamo are still in insurrection, and at Anoya, a strong position on the eastern slope of Ida, very severe fighting has been going on for some days. All the volunteers and many Cretans are assembled there, and very large losses are reported on both sides. The Egyptians are preparing to leave; some of the baggage is already embarked.

"I do not believe the Cretans so much wish for annexation to Greece as a good Government, equal rights to Mussulmans and Christians, and other reforms provided by the Hatti-Sheriff of February 1856, but which have never been carried out.

"But the pressure from without is so great that the 'Epitropi' seems to be almost entirely governed from Athens."

I have the honour to inclose a translation of a Proclamation issued recently by the so-called "National Assembly" of Crete, denouncing vengeance against any one who shall listen to the proposals of Server Effendi, or consent to go to Constantinople as a Provincial delegate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Proclamation of the General Assembly of Cretans.

(Translation.)

HAIL, people of Crete! Our sufferings have come to an end. Intervention has begun, and Crete is to be freed and united to Greece.

Turkey, perceiving that her cause is lost, has had recourse to the following measure: she has sent an extraordinary Plenipotentiary, Server Effendi, who will shortly arrive here, if he has not already done so, and will require you to appoint Delegates from each province to go to Constantinople to conclude a Treaty with the Porte. He will promise that the Sultan will concede to Crete all that is asked of him; the Porte does not do this out of kindness, but because she sees that Crete will be free.

Be careful not to send a single Delegate from any of the provinces. He who accepts the post of Delegate to go to Constantinople will be considered a traitor to his country,

and will come to a bad end. Do not give any signature to the Turk. Whoever gives a signature will be considered as being a still worse traitor to his country, and hereafter will repent in vain.

Hail! Crete belongs to us.

Sphakia, February 1, 1867.

(The General Assembly of the Cretans.)

No. 19.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, February* 20, 1867.

M. MUSURUS assured me, in very emphatic terms, of the anxiety of the Porte to give to Crete such a local administration as should leave the islanders no cause to desire annexation to Greece.

No. 20.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February* 13, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from a newspaper (the "Courrier d'Orient") publishing a letter from Crete, which may be taken to give the Turkish version of recent occurrences in that island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 20.

Extract from the "Courrier d'Orient" of February 12, 1867.

La Canée, 6 Février, 1867.

LE Commissaire Impérial, après avoir séjourné quinze jours à Sphakia et s'être entendu avec les habitants de cette province, est revenu à la Canée avec les 6,000 hommes qui l'accompagnaient.

Il a quitté le village de Sphakia le 31 Janvier dans le dessein de faire halte à Askifos et de partir le lendemain pour Apocorona. Au moment où il se mettait en route, les Sphakiotes lui donnèrent l'assurance que tant qu'il serait sur le territoire de leur district son voyage se ferait pacifiquement, mais ils l'avertirent que les volontaires Hellènes avaient le projet de tenter une attaque à sa sortie du défilé.

Le Commissaire se mit en marche et pénétra dans la gorge qui de la mer conduit à Askifos. Cette gorge est un passage des plus dangereux. Les gens qui la traversent sont obligés de marcher un à un. Vous pouvez imaginer quelles difficultés on a dû vaincre pour y faire passer les bagages à dos de mulet. La distance de Sphakia à Askifos n'est que de deux heures; or, on n'a mis pas moins de dix heures pour arriver dans cette dernière localité. Si les Sphakiotes avaient trahi, pas un soldat ne serait sorti vivant de cette gorge.

Le soir, on campa dans la plaine d'Askifos, et l'on y resta deux jours. Il s'agissait de franchir le défilé, bien plus long, qui d'Askifos conduit à Prosnero. Le Commissaire Impérial avait pris ses mesures pour se garantir d'une surprise: des troupes régulières et irrégulières occupaient, en marchant, les hauteurs du défilé.

L'avant garde, les canons, les bagages et le gros de la troupe avaient passé: l'arrière garde quittait les sommets pour déboucher par l'extrémité du défilé, dans le plateau de Krappés, lorsque des insurgés, au nombre de 200 hommes environ, parurent sur les flancs de la montagne et commencèrent la fusillade. Aussitôt le Commissaire Impérial fit placer sur des mamelons six pièces d'artillerie, qui ouvrirent le feu. Au bout de quelques instants, les insurgés furent dispersés. L'arrière garde Turque a eu huit hommes tués et quinze blessés.

On passa la nuit à Vrisés et le lendemain on arriva à la Canée.

Pendant qu'on était à Vrisés, une dépêche du Gouverneur de Candie vint annoncer au Commissaire Impérial les nouvelles que voici:

Les débris des bandes de Coronéos, de Karaka et de Zimbrakaki s'étaient réunis au pied du Mont Ida, dans le village d'Anoya. Le Gouverneur de Candie ayant été instruit de cette réunion, était parti avec trois bataillons de troupes régulières et 400 irrégulières, dont plusieurs Crétois Chrétiens, pour aller les surprendre. La surprise avait eu lieu et la bande s'était dispersée, laissant bon nombre de morts sur le terrain.

Le Commissaire Impérial allait partir de Vrisés, quand cinq volontaires Hellènes vinrent lui présenter une supplique par laquelle un corps Hellénique de quelques centaines d'hommes, qui se trouvait à Marulla, village à deux heures de Rétymo, demandait à être embarqué pour retourner en Grèce, et priait Mustapha Pacha d'envoyer à cet effet des bâteaux-à-vapeur.

Ces cinq individus sont arrivés à la Canée avec le Commissaire Impérial. Sitôt que le bâteau Français aura terminé les réparations qu'il fait à sa machine, il sera, dit-on, envoyé à Rétymo pour transporter les volontaires en Grèce. Ils désirent surtout ne pas être mis à terre au Pirée, mais sur un autre point du continent.

Les Garibaldiens que nous avons eus ici pendant quelques jours parlent de leurs compagnons d'armes d'une manière peu avantageuse. Un de ces Italiens, un chef, avait un domestique auquel il avait confié une certaine somme d'argent: ce domestique a été tué et dévalisé par les insurgés. Tous les Garibaldiens se sont embarqués sur le bâteau du Lloyd Autrichien.

L'armée Turque est divisée en colonnes mobiles qui parcourent les divers districts de l'île. Le Commissaire Impérial s'occupe de l'organisation du pays.

(Translation.)

Canea, February 6, 1867.

THE Imperial Commissioner, after remaining a fortnight at Sfakia, and coming to an understanding with the inhabitants of that province, returned to Canea with the 6,000 men who went with him.

He left the village of Sfakia on the 31st of January, intending to halt at Askifos, and march next day for Apocorona. Just as he was starting, the Sfakiotes assured him that as long as he was on the territory of their district his march should be made in peace, but they warned him that the Greek volunteers intended to attempt an attack at the end of the gorge.

The Commissioner set out, and penetrated into the ravine which leads from the sea to Askifos. This ravine is one of the most dangerous to pass. People crossing it are obliged to walk in single file. You can imagine what difficulties had to be overcome to enable baggage to pass on the backs of mules. The distance from Sfakia to Askifos is only about two hours; but they occupied no less than ten hours in getting to the latter place. If the Sfakiotes had betrayed them, not a single soldier would have come out of that gorge alive.

In the evening they encamped on the plain of Askifos, and remained there two days. It was necessary to pass through the defile (a much longer one) which leads from Askifos to Prosnéro. The Imperial Commissioner had taken steps to provide against a surprise: regular and irregular troops occupied the heights above the defile during the march.

The advanced guard, the artillery, the baggage, and the main body of the troops had passed; the rear-guard were leaving the heights to defile through the end of the ravine into the table-land of Krappés, when some insurgents, to the number of about 200 men, appeared on the side of the mountain and began to fire. Immediately the Imperial Commissioner placed six pieces of cannon on some mounds, and opened fire with them. In a few minutes the insurgents were dispersed. The Turkish rear-guard had 8 men killed and 15 wounded.

The night was passed at Vrisés, and Canea was reached next day.

Whilst they were at Vrisés, there came a despatch from the Governor of Candia announcing to the Imperial Commissioners the following news:—

"The remains of the bands of Coroneos, Koraka, and Zimbrakaki had united at the foot of Mount Ida, in the village of Anoya. The Governor of Candia having received information of this junction, had gone to surprise them with three battalions of Regulars and 400 Irregulars, several of whom were Christian Cretans. The surprise was successful, and the band had been dispersed, leaving a considerable number of dead on the field."

The Imperial Commissioner was about to start from Vrisés, when five Greek volunteers came and presented to him a petition in which a body of some hundreds of Greeks, then at Marulla, a village at a distance of two hours from Retimo, begged to be carried back to Greece, and prayed Mustapha Pasha to send some steamers for that purpose.

These five individuals arrived at Canea with the Imperial Commissioner. As soon as the French vessel has finished the repairs which her engines are now undergoing, she will, it is said, be sent to Retimo to carry the volunteers over to Greece. They particularly wish not to be put on shore at the Piræus, but rather at any other point on the Continent.

The Garibaldians, whom we have had here for some days, speak with very little respect of their companions in arms. One of these Italians, a leader, had a servant, to whom he had entrusted a certain sum of money; this servant was murdered and stripped by the insurgents. All the Garibaldians have gone on board the Austrian Lloyds' steamer.

The Turkish army is divided into flying columns, which traverse the various districts of the island. The Imperial Commissioner is occupied with the organization of the country.

No. 21.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 22.)

(Extract.) *Athens, February* 10, 1867.

M. TRICOUPI assumes as an admitted fact that the insurrection in Crete is due entirely to causes for which the Greek Government are in no way responsible.

At the outset the ranks of the insurgents were not swelled by volunteers from hence, nor was there any large influx of warlike stores into Crete. It was only after the whole Christian population of the island had taken up arms and the Porte had seen fit to establish a blockade, that the Greek nation unanimously evinced the sympathy they felt for the sufferings of a people who are connected with them by the ties of race, of language, and of religion. Arms may have been sent and Greek citizens may have joined the insurrection; but neither of these acts constituted, in the opinion of M. Tricoupi, a disregard of Treaty obligations. It is for the Ottoman authorities to take measures to prevent the introduction of the arms, and there is no law in Greece which would enable the Government to interfere with the enrolment of volunteers in behalf of any cause which may happen to be popular.

M. Tricoupi does not, I believe, officially avow the recognition of the Cretans as belligerents, but he stated that they were fully entitled to be so recognized, and that if he were pressed on the point he should justify the conduct of the Hellenic Government on that ground also.

No. 22.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 22.)

(Extract.) *Athens, February* 13, 1867.

EARLY on the 10th instant two Turkish vessels of war anchored at the entrance of the Piræus with 320 Greek volunteers on board, from Crete, who had made their submission to the Ottoman authorities at Kavusi, in the Province of Retimo, and embarked at the port of Retimo, in a state of the greatest destitution. Many of these men belonged to the band of Mainiotes commanded by Petropoulaki, which landed near Candia from the "Hydra" and "Panhellenion" only a few weeks ago, and which appears to have been frequently defeated in action by the Turks, and reduced to great straits by want of provisions. Before leaving, it is said that these men came to blows with their own people, who wished to prevent their embarking in Turkish vessels, and that several lives were lost on both sides.

On the arrival of these vessels at the Piræus, M. Tricoupi called on Photiades Bey to make arrangements for their being landed; and they were eventually placed on board two Greek steamers and conveyed to Kalimaki, on the Isthmus of Corinth, whence they will be allowed to return to their respective homes in whatever way they choose. The two Turkish men-of-war returned to their station in Crete before dark, and there was no disturbance at the Piræus, mainly, I believe, owing to the presence on the spot of some 200 friends of the returned volunteers, who announced that they were determined to prevent a renewal of any such disgraceful scene as that which occurred when a previous batch of volunteers arrived in this country.

By the inclosed extract from a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, your Lord-

ship will perceive that the "Panhellenion" has again been sent to Crete with a full cargo of provisions and warlike stores.

M. Tricoupi called upon me yesterday to say that the Government had received intelligence that the "Panhellenion" is now at Cerigo, where she is watched, apparently, by the "Thalia," a Turkish cruizer; and he added that the Government had determined to dispatch a vessel of war to convoy her to a place of safety. Lest, however, it should hereafter be supposed that this measure had been adopted for the purpose of enabling the "Panhellenion" to land her cargo in Crete, in defiance of the Turkish cruizers, he begged to assure me that she would not be allowed to ship any contraband of war, and that she would be compelled to proceed to Syra, or some other Greek port, under the convoy of a Hellenic man-of-war, whose duty it would be to see that she was neither detained nor searched by a Turkish cruizer.

I endeavoured to dissuade M. Tricoupi from this course, but he said that the Government could not possibly expose one of their vessels to the arbitrary procedure of a Turkish Prize Court, and that he was satisfied that the step that they were about to take was fully sanctioned by international law.

Later in the evening I called upon M. Tricoupi, and again asked him to defer dispatching the vessel of war until he had time to consider the gravity of the course they were pursuing. I said that it appeared to me doubtful whether a neutral Power was justified in refusing to permit a suspected vessel to be searched, even when under convoy; but he replied that he felt quite confident that such was the practice established or admitted by most maritime nations, and that he would assume all the responsibility of what was to be done; that the officer's orders were to "prevent" any violation of "Greek waters or of the Greek flag," and that the only object of his communication to the Representatives of the Protecting Powers was to preclude the possibility of its being again said that the Hellenic Government were affording the protection of a man-of-war to a vessel engaged in blockade running.

The vessel dispatched on this service is the gun-vessel "Salaminia," which sailed from the Piræus last night.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, February* 9, 1867.

THE "Panhellenion" starts again to-day for Crete, with biscuits, flour, rice, trousers, shoes, leather and cartridges, which include what she brought back again. She will also take some few Cretans hence to remain there to look after the cargo, but I do not know how many, perhaps fifty. There are no volunteers here, and if any return here they will, I fear, meet with a very ugly reception; the few that are here, Greeks, not showing themselves at all. No news yet of the "Arkadi."

No. 23.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, Februzry* 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, a copy of an instruction addressed to Mustapha Naïli Pasha, and which has been publicly read in this city since Server Effendi's arrival.

This document, printed in Greek, is identical to that delivered to each of the other Consuls, and has also been distributed in different parts of the island.

The following is the substance of the Order in question, which, if I am rightly informed, has already been communicated to Her Majesty's Embassy:—

After expressing their deep concern at the insurrection and denouncing the instigators of it, the Imperial Government pay a tribute of praise to such of the population as remained loyal, and add that the conduct of the Imperial troops on the one hand, the forbearance of the Local Government on the other, have succeeded in restoring tranquillity and order throughout the island, with the exception of a few localities, where some foreign adventurers are still to be found. The natives, however, who, having taken part in the insurrection, desire to avail themselves of the general amnesty, long since granted, may still peaceably return to their homes and betake themselves to their agricultural and commercial pursuits. Hence, a Commission has been appointed to sit at Constantinople, the object of

which will be to consider and carry into effect the best form of administration in Crete. As soon as the insurrection shall have been entirely quelled, the Governor-General, about to proceed hither, will adopt measures for repairing the damages and losses caused by the warfare; and by improving the administrative system and giving encouragement to agriculture and commerce, will thus contribute to the material well-being of the population. In order to attain so desirable an end, it has been deemed expedient to consult the wishes of such Cretans as enjoy the confidence of their countrymen. The Imperial Commissioner is directed, by the present Decree, to request the Cretans to elect from amongst themselves one or two Mohammedans, or non-Mussulmans, in every district, in order that the same may be delegated to the capital; and in promulgating this order, Mustapha Pasha is enjoined at the same time to express to the population the goodwill of the Imperial Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 23.

*Instructions addressed to Mustapha Pasha, printed in Greek.**

No. 24.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 11, 1867.

WITH reference to the engagement at Anoya, briefly adverted to in my Report of the 4th instant, I have the honour to submit to your Lordship's notice a copy of a letter from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, containing further particulars of that battle, as well as of another and previous encounter at Tylissus. An Egyptian Lieutenant-Colonel was amongst the killed at Anoya.

I inclose, moreover, a translation of a letter from Mr. G. Calocherino, Consular Agent at Retimo, reporting military operations in his district, and some details of a battle at Asteraki.

The 300 Greek volunteers that surrendered at the village of St. Irene, and 20 others besides, arrived in Suda Bay on the 8th; and the day following, having been shipped on board the "Izzeddin" steamer and another Ottoman ship, they were taken back, a few to Cerigo, the rest to the Piræus. Ali Bey took charge of these men.

In consequence of the landing on the Kissamos coast, between Akti and Grabusa, on the 4th instant, of 200 Mainiote volunteers, with a quantity of Commissariat stores, the Imperial Commissioner has just organized another expeditionary force, consisting of about 6,000 Turco-Egyptian troops and some 500 Albanians and Cretan Irregulars, with 8 field-pieces. This body, commanded by Ali Riza Pasha, left Canea the day before yesterday for Skineh.

As the newly arrived volunteers are reported to be at Omalos, with Colonel Zimbrakaki and the members of the Epitropi, it is not improbable, I presume, that Ali Riza Pasha may attempt to force that Pass.

Some Kissamos peasants have lately brought into Canea oil and wine.

It is said that most of the supplies in question, discharged from the "Panhellenion" at Kissamos, have been plundered by the peasantry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, February* 2, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state to you that on the 27th ultimo a collision took place at the village Tylissos of Malevisi, between the Imperial troops and the insurgents, who were in possession of Anoya, and attacked the Imperial troops stationed at Tylissos. The losses of the latter, however, were insignificant.

On the morning of the 28th ultimo the Imperial troops, with the Bashi-Bazouks,

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 185.

amounting to about 4,500 men, left Tylissos and proceeded on the mountains of Anoya to attack the insurgents; consequently a fight took place in the neighbourhood of Asteraki and Camargiotes; heavy loss was caused, especially to the Bashi-Bazouks and to the Egyptian troops, the number of the killed and wounded men being unknown; it is supposed, however, that some 210 men were killed and 160 wounded. The losses of the insurgents must of course have been also heavy, though only four Greek volunteers and five Cretan insurgents were found killed.

The number of the insurgents and volunteers that took part in the fighting is supposed to have been some 2,500 men.

The insurgents made, however, not a very long resistance, as they retreated to Anoya, where they left their wounded, about fifteen in number (being afterwards killed by the Turkish troops at Anoya), and thence the insurgents proceeded, as people suppose, to Amari Castelli.

The Imperial troops marched at once over the mountains of Anoya, where seven battalions of troops from Retimo joined them on the 31st ultimo. All the regular troops are still stationed at Anoya; the Bashi-Bazouks, however, have to-day returned here, after they have sacked all the villages they have encountered in their way to this town. It has also been reported that the convent of Vossakos and other monasteries in Mylopotamo were pillaged by the same Bashi-Bazouks, who have also partly burnt the villages of Asteraki and Camargiotes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translated from the Greek.)

Sir, *Retimo*, $\frac{\text{January } 24}{\text{February } 5}$, 1867.

IN continuation of my letter of the 21st January, I may state that at Dikusiliana Turkish troops descended from the villages Russospiti, &c., in expectation of reinforcements of regulars and irregulars from Retimo, for the purpose of proceeding to Mylopotamo. These latter, on leaving Retimo, having joined the Imperial army, marched on to Avlopotamo, over the mountains. The foreign volunteers, who had arrived at St. Pelayia and Rogdia, having been joined by other insurgents, were commanded by Coroneos, Corakas, Skoula, &c. This force, as reported, consisted of some 2,500 combatants. Last week these fought bravely against a body of more than 5,000 Turkish troops belonging to the Province of Candia. The village of Asteraki was the scene of battle. The first day the Greeks obliged the Turks to retire to a distance of six hours, killing and wounding many, as they said. On the following day the insurgents, having been betrayed by one of their own party, were left unprovided with ammunition, in consequence of which they were attacked by the Turks, and routed with a loss of about fifty. The same number must have fallen on the Turkish side. The Turks sacked and burnt Asteraki, as well as other villages in the neighbourhood.

The volunteers being very discontented, a division has taken place amongst them, and a portion, with Coroneos, have retired to St. Vassili. About from 600 to 700 volunteers, who remained at St. Amarion, sent on the 21st of January to Retimo Town three emissaries, in order to treat with the Governor and obtain permission to quit the island. The day after their arrival the Governor sent back one of them, and retained the two others. On returning to his comrades, an affray ensued among them, when six were killed. Out of 700, only 300 surrendered from Sarkokavosa, in Retimo Province. These having been disarmed, and being in want of food, the Governor at once supplied them with provisions.

The insurgents at Mylopotamo have been spreading reports calculated to create a panic amongst the volunteers.

In consequence of certain vexatious restrictions on the part of the authorities, no olive oil has of late been brought into town. Commerce is at a standstill.

It is said that in Candia Province some Christians, after these had surrendered, attacked and killed upwards of eighty Turks. We cannot yet ascertain the motive of this deed.

The above-enumerated volunteers have just arrived at the village of St. Irene, half-an-hour's distance from Retimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 25.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Fane.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, February* 28, 1867.

THE French Ambassador has communicated to me to-day the substance of a despatch from M. de Moustier on Eastern affairs.

The Imperial Government, M. de Moustier says, understand the hesitation of that of Her Majesty to express any decided opinion on those matters, or to take any further step at the present moment. For themselves they have as yet made no formal proposition; they only desire an interchange of ideas between the two Governments. They have already explained the reasons which had induced them to consider their first suggestion in regard to the establishment of autonomy in Crete, to be inadequate to meet the circumstances of the case, and every day confirmed their impression that the time for that expedient has gone by, and that the reforms proposed, to be effective, must be fundamental in character.

The Imperial Government would wish to learn the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the best course of proceeding under existing circumstances. Are they of opinion that merely administrative improvements will be enough to pacify Crete, to quiet Greece, and to prevent future disturbances? Do they think that the Turkish Government is able, even supposing it to be willing, to work out the necessary reforms?

The Imperial Government does not think so; especially after reading the manifesto issued by the Porte inviting delegates from Crete to Constantinople for the purpose of discussing personally the grievances of which they complain.

I told the French Ambassador that it appeared to me that the policy recommended by the Imperial Government was full of difficulties.

I doubted whether the Porte would be inclined to listen to any proposal involving the cession of Crete, and the additional suggestion that the Greek frontier should be rectified at the same time would not improve the chances of our advice being taken. Then would come the question, what should we do in the event of a refusal?

In any case, however, it seemed to me that we were bound, if only out of respect to our own consistency, to await the result of the advice which had already been given to the Porte, carefully watching meanwhile the course of events. No one could at the present moment say with certainty whether the war in Crete would, or would not, break out again on a large scale; yet it was obvious that on that event the decision of the Porte might in great measure depend. Advice to be useful must be not only sound in substance but opportune. If the state of affairs became worse, it might be necessary to have recourse to new measures; but the time for deciding upon those measures had not yet arrived.

No. 26.

*Lord Stanley to Mr. Fane.**

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, February* 28, 1867.

M. BRAILAS-ARMENI, the Greek Minister, called upon me to-day, and read to me a copy of a despatch from his Government.

As M. Brailas seemed to expect some observations on my part, I said in reply that I was glad to find the Greek Government disclaimed so emphatically all idea of violating its duties of neutrality. I noticed, however, that in the despatch which he had read to me nothing was said as to the passage backwards and forwards of the "Panhellenion" steamer carrying arms and volunteers for the insurgents in Crete, which I could not consider as consistent with the obligations of neutrality.

M. Brailas on this said frankly that the Greek Executive was feeble, that popular feeling was strong, and that it would have been wholly out of their power to prevent the sailing of that vessel, especially as her cruises generally took place at night.

I answered that I quite understood the position, and accepted as strictly accurate his statement; but if he was compelled to admit that neutrality had been violated, and that his Government had not had the power to prevent it, I did not think they were authorized to protest so strongly against the injustice of the Turkish complaints.

M. Brailas then went into a long argument to prove the impossibility of bringing about a restoration of peace in the East, except by the cession of Crete and the rectification of the Greek frontier so as to include part of Epirus and Thessaly. As the reasons

* A similar despatch was addressed to Mr. Erskine.

he gave have been repeatedly urged on former occasions, I do not reproduce them. I assured him that the only wish of Her Majesty's Government was to act fairly and impartially between the contending parties; and I stated, as I had done to the French Ambassador, that having recently given advice to the Porte, the result of which there had not been time to ascertain, it would be inopportune, in any case, to withdraw that advice, and recommend a wholly different course, the circumstances not having altered. I thought we could only wait and watch events.

No. 27.

Consul Ongley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 1.)

(Extract.) *Patras, February* 16, 1867.

THE Greek press has endeavoured to persuade the public that the Cretans were overburthened with taxes. I may be permitted to say that in 1857 they amounted to 10*s.* per head, exclusive of the tax in lieu of military service. Since then the Porte has gradually reduced the duties on exports to foreign countries, and either this year or the next it will be only 1 per cent.; this is a great boon to the agriculturists, the principal portion of which are Christians, but one which they do not understand; they do not see that the foreign purchaser will pay a higher price for produce if he has no duty to pay on exportation. On the other hand the Porte has put taxes on tobacco, salt, and the sale of wine in the villages; these are all obnoxious taxes, keenly felt by the peasantry, and, from what I learn from the Cretan refugees, have been the cause of great discontent.

The tax on salt interfered with the great manufacture of the country soap-making, and was therefore highly objectionable.

In Greece in 1859 the taxes amounted to 12*s.* 1¾*d.* per head, being 2*s.* 1¾*d.* per head more than in Crete; since then the dîme on some products has been decreased to 5 per cent.: still the tax per head would be greater than in Crete, and it is now proposed to increase the duties on sugar, rice, hides, &c., which would bring the taxation up to its original amount.

Your Lordship will see, then, that the assertions of the Greek press, as well as of part of the English press, are totally without foundation.

If the Porte had maintained the old rate of duties on exports in Crete, instead of diminishing them, and replacing them by new and obnoxious taxes, the discontent would not have been produced, and foreign intriguers would not have been able so easily to induce the Cretans to revolt.

No. 28.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 2.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February* 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch, in which I have informed Mr. Consul Dickson that I approve of his having declined, under the circumstances stated in his despatch of the 19th ultimo,* to place Her Majesty's ship "Wizard" at the disposal of the Ottoman authorities, to be employed in carrying volunteers who had taken part in the insurrection back to Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Lord Lyons to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Constantinople, February* 8, 1867.

YOUR despatches of the 16th, 17th and 19th ultimo reached me on the 4th instant. I have therefore now received your despatches to the 27th ultimo.

I approve of your having declined, under the circumstances stated in your despatch of the 19th ultimo, to place Her Majesty's ship "Wizard," at the disposal of the Ottoman authorities to be employed in conveying to Greece the volunteers who had obtained from those authorities permission to quit Crete with their arms.

I am, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

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* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament, February 11, 1867, page 180.

No. 29.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 4.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February 14, 1867.*

ADVERTING to my Report of the 9th instant, containing a printed Greek copy of an instruction addressed to the Imperial Commissioner, and communicated by his Highness to the foreign Consuls, on the subject of certain conciliatory proposals to the inhabitants of this island, and which document has been publicly read since Server Effendi's arrival, I have the honour to lay before your Lordship a scrap, printed in Greek, which has been anonymously transmitted to me from Greece by the mail-boat last arrived from Syra.

The same paper has, I understand, equally been sent to my colleagues and some other residents here. Appended to this print is a translation of its contents.

I have heard it reported, yet I can in no way vouch for the truth of the statement, that the Epitropi threaten to kill, and destroy the property of any Cretan who should proceed to Constantinople, or otherwise accept any of the proposals in question. To this threat is joined the excommunication of the war-Christian priests.

It is said that the Epitropi itself no longer controls the insurrectionary movement, but is entirely subordinate to the Committee at Athens.

I may also state that the Imperial instruction alluded to has created some local misconception, seeing that it bears no signature or date, and that no special mention is made of Christian members to be elected for each district in an island where the Christian element far outnumbers the Mahometan population.

I must not omit to advert to the fact of the malcontents having of late printed, in some secluded mountainous retreat, an insurgent newspaper.

I am informed that several copies of this print have been surreptitiously introduced into this city. I venture to inclose a specimen of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Proclamation from the General Assembly of Cretans.

(Translation.)

People of Crete, greeting!

OUR miseries are at an end. Intervention has already commenced, and the Island of Crete is being freed to be united to Greece.

Turkey, seeing that she is losing her cause, now resorts to the following measure: she has sent an Envoy Extraordinary, Server Effendi, who will shortly come, if he be not already arrived, and will demand the appointment of delegates from every district to proceed to Constantinople, and enter into an agreement with the Porte. He will promise that the Sultan will grant to Crete whatever they may ask for. The Porte, however, does not do this of its own free will, but because it sees that Crete will liberate itself. Beware that no district shall send any delegate. Whoever consents to be named delegate to Constantinople will be a traitor to his country, and will have a bad end. Give no signature to the Turk. He who thus gives his signature will be deemed the worst traitor to his country, and will have reason to repent when too late. Hail! Crete is ours.

At Sfakia, the 20th January, 1867.

(Signed) PARTH. KELAIDIS.
PARTH. PERIDIS.
J. A. MANUSOYANNAKIS.
A. Z. MPOUMPOULAKIS.
P. A. MORAKIS.
JOS. HADGI RUSSU VURDUVAKIS.
A. TSIKHLIS.
L. GEORGIADIS.
A. PAPPAGEORGIOS.
D. PAPPADAKIS.
MICH. KERIAKIDIS.
A. MANUSOYANNAKIS.
N. NIKOLIDAKIS.

No. 30.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 4.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 18, 1867.

ALI RIZA PASHA'S expeditionary force having left Skineh (*vide* my despatch of the 11th instant), his onward march was seriously impeded by the hilly and rocky nature of the ground, unprovided with any road except a zigzag path. Crossing the Lakos mountain-ridge, and on descending into a deep gorge, Kakis Plevrais, which is flanked by high and precipitous rocks, the troops were attacked from different quarters by volunteers and Cretan insurgents, conjecturally estimated at 1,000 and 500, and commanded by Colonel Zimbrakaki and Hadji Mikhali. The rear of his army being menaced in such a position, and fearing to have his communication with Canea cut off, the Turkish Commander dispatched on the 11th an estafette to the Imperial Commissioner, asking for reinforcements. The following morning four battalions (two of Redif and two Egyptian), with about 250 Cretan irregulars, accordingly marched out; but before these could reach their destination, a skirmish occurred with a body of some 500 Kissamiotes, headed by Mavroyenis, and who had meanwhile come to join Colonel Zimbrakaki.

Since yesterday the firing is said to have ceased on both sides, owing to the weather, and on this clearing up Ali Riza Pasha may penetrate into Omalos plain, a distance of some three hours. According to information given by three volunteer deserters just arrived at Canea (of whom two, Italians, come from Omalos, the other, a Swiss, from Gonia), the foreign volunteers complain of ill-treatment at the hands of the natives, and many are known to be wandering over different parts of the Island in quest of food. Of the seventy or more Italians that arrived from Greece, only twenty-three are said to remain. There are also two Frenchmen, both with Zimbrakakis.

The position at Nipos has been abandoned; Mehmed Pasha having posted three battalions at Kalyves, withdrew yesterday the rest of his army (about 1,000 men) into Canea. This officer has since embarked with a detachment for Retimo. It appears that an insurgent foray has recently been made into the neighbourhood of that town. The volunteers, with Colonel Coroneos, have been dispersed after their defeat at Anoya, in the district of St. Vassili. The members of the Epitropi are said to be at Kalikrati.

Produce from the districts of Apokorona, Kissamos and Selino, is being daily brought in overland.

The Sfakiotes whose smacks were sunk (Sevastopol fashion) in Lutro port, during the occupation of their seaboard by the Imperial troops, have since raised them, and are plying to Canea for supplies.

The Mussulman peasantry in the western parts of the island have suffered in a greater ratio than the Christians. At Selino they have lost their cattle and horses, and the villages have been devastated. Hundreds of poor Mussulman families are being entirely supported by the charity of native beys, and I must remark, in justice to many of these gentlemen, that while lamenting the present contest, they do not look upon it merely in the light of a merciless jihad, or war for the Faith.

The "Panhellenion," after having last week been watched for three successive days at Cerigotto by a Turkish cruizer, may possibly by this time have landed further supplies on this island. The natives affect no longer surprise or indignation at the continued re-appearance of the notorious blockade-runner: some, indeed, if I may be permitted to quote a local expression, have changed its epithet of "Sheitan-panhelly" for that of "Allah-kerim," since "it now provides food and leather for the starved and bootless; and as for the volunteers it may bring, these are only guests to be hospitably entertained by the Pasha."

The Austrian frigate "Donau" has been relieved by the "Adria," also a frigate, arrived from Pola. The Italian despatch-boat "Tripoli," having called at Suda Bay for coals, left again yesterday for Alexandria, accompanied by the "Gaeta." Count Castiglione was on board the "Tripoli," bearer of a present of some horses to Shereef Pasha, on the part of King Victor Emmanuel. Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," having proceeded some distance at sea on the 7th instant, for target-practice, has since returned. Having also called at Candia, Lieutenant and Commander Murray informs me that that province was then quiet.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—According to a letter said to have been received at Canea from the insurgent camp, and dated the 14th instant, a body of 2,100 Cretan insurgents and foreign volunteers

took up a position at Mandran, on the heights of Kakais Plevrais. Colonel Zimbrakaki, with 500 men, occupied the centre; the right and left were each formed by 800 men, and commanded, the former by Hadji Mikhali, the latter by Captains Kriaris, Krokidis, Cassilakis, Kostarò, &c. The engagement commenced on the morning of the 12th, and lasted until evening, when Ali Riza Pasha was compelled to retreat to Khasti, some distance to the north of the late scene of action. During the night Hadji Mikhali, with 150 Cretans, made an onslaught on the Turkish outlying pickets, killing several Turks and Egyptians; of the Christians, four fell. The Turkish artillery kept up a heavy, yet harmless fire upon the heights in question until the following morning, in the vain hope of dislodging the enemy. The same letter announces that the Sfakiotes, to the number of 1,000, have joined the insurgents; 500 being with Zimbrakakis, the rest having gone over to the Province of Candia.

At St. Thomaso, in Messarà district and bordering on Malevisi, another engagement is reported to have recently taken place. C. H. D.

No. 31.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 4.)

My Lord, *Athens, February* 23, 1867.

OWING to some derangement of the Austrian postal service, no news had been received here from Crete since the 11th instant, which is the date of Mr. Consul Dickson's last despatches.

Mr. Consul Lloyd reports on the 19th instant from Syra that the "Panhellenion" had returned to that port without being able to effect a landing in Crete. She went from Gythium in Laconia to Cerigotto, where she remained two days watched by Turkish cruizers, and on leaving Cerigotto she fell in with several of them, and was compelled to return to Syra.

The new blockade-runner "Arkadi" had, it was reported, been forced by stress of weather to put back to Liverpool, after being seventy hours at sea.

The Athens papers continue to publish letters from Colonels Zimbrakaki, Yenissarlis, and Saratzoglous, of a recent date, professing to give accounts of engagements between bodies of 700 insurgents and 4,500 Turks, in which the casualties of the former are given at only twenty-five, whilst the Turks are, as usual, represented as losing at least 300 men, including a Lieutenant-Colonel. On the 11th Colonel Zimbrakaki states that he was about to be attacked in force at Omalos, but speaks confidently of his ability to repel the attack.

In all the recent letters from Canea great stress is laid upon the fact that Server Effendi has himself selected the Delegates to be sent to Constantinople, in concert with the Porte, as to the ameliorations to be introduced in Crete, a course which, if it be really followed, can scarcely fail to discredit the sincerity of the proposed concessions, and to protract the civil war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 32.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 4.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, February* 27, 1867.

I HAD on the 23rd instant the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, giving an account of communications made to you by the Russian and Prussian Ambassadors with a view to a collective representation to be addressed by the great Powers to the Porte, on the subject of the removal of Christians from Crete by foreign men of war.

The objections entertained by the Porte to sanctioning the employment of foreign men of war for this purpose are as strong ever. The Ottoman Ministers point to the demonstrations made in various places by the Hellenes and their supporters on receiving intelligence of the removal of Christians by Her Majesty's ship "Assurance," and by the Russian frigate "Grand Admiral." They cite these demonstrations as proofs that all proceedings of this nature will be taken as signs of the sympathy of the great Powers with the insurrection, and will tend to prolong it. They say that the object with which this

measure was so strenuously urged by the Hellenes was simply a military object, that it was believed that the Sfakiotes and other Cretans might be more easily induced to join the insurrection if their families were removed from the dangers of war. They declare that not only the women and children, but even the men who have been in arms, have nothing to fear, if they will confide in the Government; that they will be received with kindness, and that every effort will be made to supply their wants.

Your Lordship is aware that I have unremittingly pressed upon the Porte the consideration that if it will not allow foreign men of war to remove the unfortunate women and children it is more than ever incumbent upon it to take thought for them itself. I observed to Fuad Pasha the day before yesterday that I had been assured by his predecessor that Server Effendi would press the adoption of immediate measures for the relief of the women and children, and for facilitating their removal from the places in which they were suffering from hunger and cold. I proceeded to inquire what reports on this matter had been received from Server Effendi. Fuad Pasha did not appear to be able to answer this question directly. He said, however, that there were no longer families on the seashore suffering hunger and cold, and looking out for vessels to embark them; that order and tranquillity had been so far restored that he doubted whether there were many native Cretans who now desired to quit the island, or who would gain anything by doing so. Every effort would, he could assure me, be made by the Government authorities to relieve the distress which had been the consequence of the insurrection. To sanction the removal of the subjects of the Sultan by foreign men of war to Greece would be derogatory to the dignity of the Porte; it would be to admit that foreigners were more able and willing to care for them than was their own Government. If it should really appear that Christian families desired to leave Crete, and that their removal would be a means of relieving them from suffering, the Porte would itself provide steam-vessels to convey them to Scio, Samos, or any other suitable refuge.

I communicated to Mr. Consul Dickson, in a despatch dated the 25th ultimo, the assurances I had received that Server Effendi would provide for the relief of the suffering Christian families. I do not find any mention of the subject in his more recent despatches. I will direct him to make a special report upon it.

No. 33.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February 27, 1867.*

FUAD PASHA told me the day before yesterday that the Porte had received intelligence from Crete up to the 19th instant, which he looked upon as very favourable. He said that Server Effendi wrote that, notwithstanding the threatening and inflammatory Proclamations of the so-called Cretan Assembly, most of the villages in the districts of Candia and Retimo had given their votes for the election of Delegates to be sent to Constantinople, in pursuance of the invitation of the Porte.

I told his Highness that I had heard by telegraph from Athens on the previous day that Her Majesty's Consul in Crete mentioned, in despatches dated on the 18th instant, various actions between the troops and the insurgents, in all of which the troops had been worsted, and it was said that in one of them upwards of 2,000 insurgents had been engaged.

Fuad Pasha said that no news of these actions had reached the Porte. On the contrary, the despatches of the 19th stated that the remnant of the Hellenic volunteers, amounting to about 1,500 men, had fled to the mountains, and that the Imperial Commissioner had sent troops to surround them, but that the movement had been retarded by heavy rains and fogs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 34.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord, *Athens, February 27, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a summary issued by the Central Cretan Commission of the intelligence received by last mail, which is in a great measure confirmed by Mr. Consul Dickson's Reports of the 18th instant.

I inclose also a protest addressed to the Consular Body at Canea by the so-called National Assembly of Crete against the mission of Server Effendi, in which the Assembly demand that the people of Crete may be permitted by universal suffrage to declare their wishes as to the future government of the island.

The accounts received by Photiades Bey from the Imperial Commissioner continue, it is true, to speak of the impotent endeavours of a handful of foreign "vagabonds" and "adventurers;" but the reports which have reached the Italian and French Legations, as well as those derived from trustworthy private sources, concur in representing this fresh insurrectionary outbreak as most serious. At Retimo the native Mussulmans were so exasperated by the vigorous resistance they had met with from the insurgents, that on being driven back into that fortress, they set upon the defenceless Christians, and killed or wounded several, whilst the bulk of the Christian population were only rescued from a similar fate by being shut up in the churches under the protection of the regular troops; and sentries were placed at the doors of the Consular Agents of foreign Powers, to prevent their being ill-used or insulted.

It seems to be generally admitted that the mission of Server Effendi has proved a signal failure. Even at Canea the two Christian Delegates selected to proceed to Constantinople have peremptorily declined to accept the functions assigned to them.

In a letter which I have seen from the Captain of the Italian corvette "Guiscardo," who has recently visited the town of Candia, he gives an account of an interview with Sali Pasha, a son of the Imperial Commissioner, who stated that he had sent out a corps of about 6,000 men to attack and disperse a body of about 2,000 insurgents in the Eastern Provinces.

Mr. Dickson speaks of a body of upwards of 2,000 in the district of Cydonia, actually within sight of Canea; and yet Mustapha Pasha thinks fit to allow his Secretary to go on concocting reports for circulation abroad, in which the insurrection is described as having been completely suppressed, with the exception of a few bands of "brigands" and "vagabonds" who "still infest the most inaccessible mountains."

Mr. Consul Lloyd reports the arrival at Syra on the 23rd instant of the long-expected blockade-runner "Dream," or, as she is now called "Arkadi," under the British flag. This steamer will now hoist Greek colours, and as she is said to be at least as fast, if not faster than any of the Turkish cruizers, it will henceforth be comparatively easy to land a supply of ammunition and provisions on any part of Crete where they may be required.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Supplement of "La Grèce" of February 26, 1867.

Bulletin publié Dimanche par le Comité Central après l'Arrivée du Bâtiment Autrichien de Canée.

LES nouvelles que nous recevons des divers camps de Candie vont jusqu'au 6 du courant.

La population de Candie a décidé de répondre par les armes aux efforts tentés par Mustapha Pacha et par Server Effendi pour trouver des Représentants dociles à l'appel de la Sublime Porte. Le feu de la guerre est donc allumé de nouveau dans les provinces Orientales et Occidentales.

Voici un résumé des nouvelles joyeuses qui nous arrivent:—

Districts Occidentaux.—Tous les Sphakiotes se trouvent sous les armes et assistent aux combats. Les parents même et les partisans de Tziridani, agissant de concert et sincèrement avec leurs compatriotes, sont partis pour les districts Orientaux, où ils vont appuyer l'insurrection.

Un bâtiment à vapeur Turc a transporté à Sphakia 1,000 kilès d'orge que Mustapha Pacha envoyait aux habitants affamés des parties littorales du district, espérant qu'il parviendrait ainsi à se les attacher. Mais les braves Sphakiotes ont renvoyé le bâtiment et répondu comme de vrais Spartiates: "Nous aimons mieux mourir de faim que de recevoir des dons du Sultan."

Le 30 Janvier un corps de troupes Turques de 5,000 hommes, commandé par Ali Pasha, est parti de la Canée pour aller dans les districts Occidentaux attaquer un corps d'insurgés commandé par Zimbrakaki, Criari, Hadji Michali, et d'autres capitaines indigènes. Ce corps d'insurgés était composé de Séliniotes, de Kissamiotes, d'Apocoroniotes

et Rizotes, de Thersianes, de Keramianes, d'Apocoroniotes, et autres sous leurs Chefs particuliers. Les nôtres, ayant occupé des positions favorables, repoussèrent l'ennemi à l'endroit appelé Mauvaises Côtes, et l'obligèrent à se retirer après lui avoir fait subir de grandes pertes, et à camper à l'endroit appelé Hosti, où il a demandé du secours de la Canée. La nuit du même jour, l'intrépide Hadji Michali, avec 45 Sphakiotes, a pénétré dans les tentes de l'ennemi et lui a causé de grandes pertes. Il a fait la même prouesse la nuit suivante avec 150 hommes. Voici comment il termine son rapport :—

" Le printemps approche ; nous commençons par une victoire à Sainte Rouméli, par des victoires à Sphakia et à Hosti avec attaques de nuit. Les nôtres sont pleins d'ardeur, les barbares pleins de frayeur. Avec la grâce de Dieu je vous annoncerai bientôt des victoires des nôtres."

Provinces de Rethymne et d'Héraclium.—Le 1 Février les troupes Ottomanes, divisées en deux colonnes, et composées de 10,000 hommes, sont sorties de la ville d'Héraclion et de Rethymne pour entrer dans le district d'Amérion. Les nôtres, commandés par Korakos, Scoulas, Pavlis, Dedis, Dascalakis, Roméos, Franghias, Coronéos, Pétropoulakis, Yénissarlis, Saratzeglous, et autres, occupèrent les passages et attaquèrent les troupes Turques aux endroits appelés Yéracari, Mésonisia, Trachilon, où ils leur causèrent de grandes pertes et leur prirent 150 bêtes de somme chargées de vivre. Dans cette journée glorieuse près de 100 Turcs ont été faits prisonniers, cinq drapeaux et deux canons ont été enlevés.

Un corps de Chrétiens a paru aux portes de Réthymne, où il a fait des prisonniers et a enlevé des bestiaux. Les Turcs de Réthymne effrayés, menaçaient d'un massacre général les Chrétiens de la ville, et effectivement le massacre commença et cinq Chrétiens sans armes furent égorgés. Les Consulats se fermèrent et s'armèrent.

Un autre combat digne d'être signalé a eu lieu à St. Thomas du district de Messara, où les nôtres ont obtenu la victoire et tué 500 Turcs.

On a fait et on fait de grands efforts pour décider certaines personnes à accepter le titre de représentants. Partout ces efforts échouent. A Héraclium on a trouvé un marchand de vin, un bijoutier, et un fermier des dîmes pour remplir ce rôle. Mais la Crète tout entière s'est soulevée et proteste contre une pareile machination. L'Assemblée siège à Sphakia, pleine de confiance, et agit en parfait accord. Elle vient de publier une protestation à tous les Consuls.

Les Turcs dans leur désespoir ont recommencé les actes de vandalisme. Les rapports de Candie parlent toutes de meurtres, de pillages, de profanations de temples, de femmes déshonorées, et partout où ils passent les Barbares livrent au fer et au feu tout ce qu'ils rencontrent.

Protestation.

M. le Consul,

Par lettre particulière publiée sans date adressée à Mustapha Naïli Pacha, Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan essaie de nouveau de nier l'existence de la guerre nationole que l'île de Crète fait contre son autorité arbitraire, et à l'attribuer à l'action et aux instigations d'étrangers et de gens insensés.

En réfutation de ces injures contre notre guerre nationale, nous n'avons, outre la voix retentissante de nos armes, qu'à vous prier de comparer cette lettre autographe du Sultan avec la réponse, en date du $\frac{11}{23}$ Juillet, de son Grand Vizir Mohamet Rousty à la suplique adressée en date du $\frac{14}{26}$ Mai au Sultan par les Crétois, et à la circulaire en date du $\frac{2}{14}$ Septembre de la même année, du Premier Commissaire Impérial en Crète, de Mustapha Naïli Pacha auquel il s'adresse encore aujourd'hui.

Les Crétois n'avaient à leurs côtés pour combattre avec eux que ceux qui après la Protestation de l'Assemblée Générale des Crétois en date du 20 Juillet et la Proclamation de la guerre nationale en date du $\frac{2}{14}$ Septembre de la même année, étaient rangés sous la bannière de la Croix et de la Patrie Hellénique. Nous n'avons remarqué parmi nous d'autres malfaiteurs qne ceux qui foulent aux pieds les droits de l'homme, en refusant la liberté de conscience aux individus et l'existence libre aux nations.

Le peuple Crétois, désirant délivrer Sa Majesté le Sultan de la difficulté d'avoir à se justifier souvent de la marche des affaires en Crète, et s'affranchir lui-même de la nécessité de faire tous les jours des actes de dévouement et de voir augmenter sans cesse le nombre des martyres de la liberté, s'adresse de nouveau, par l'organe de son Assemblée Générale, aux hautes Puissances Protectrices, à l'Angleterre, à la France et à la Russie, ainsi qu'à leurs alliés, comme elle l'a déjà fait autrefois, et particulièrement le $\frac{2}{14}$ Octobre dernier, et les prie de faire déclarer librement par le suffrage universel, sous la surveillance de MM. leurs Consuls, ainsi que cela a eu lieu à Nice, en Savoie et en Vénétie, sa volonté. Elle proteste

contre toute autre manœuvre politique de quelque Gouverneur du Sultan que ce soit, qui enchainerait sa liberté, contre tout manifestation de la volonté des populations faite sous l'empire de la violence.

Nous vous prions, M. le Consul, de soumettre notre présente protestation à votre auguste Gouvernement.

Agréez, &c.

Callicrate, le 3 Février, 1867.

(L'Assemblée Générale.)

M. le Consul,

Le peuple de la Crète, las des mensonges et des cruautés de l'autorité Ottomane plus que des victoires de ses armées réputées si guerrières, est décidé à combattre jusqu'à extermination.

Ni son courage ni ses forces ne se sont encore épuisées au point qu'il se trouve obligé d'implorer la clémence Turque.

Il s'afflige seulement en voyant des êtres faibles, ses femmes et ses enfants tomber victimes inutiles sous le couteau des Musulmans. Il s'afflige encore en voyant l'indifférence que montrent pour ses souffrances les Gouvernements Chrétiens, devenus ainsi complices des actes de barbarie des Turcs.

Le peuple Crétois, ne comptant pour rien les désastres qu'il a subis jusqu'à ce jour, ne demande au monde Chrétien que d'intervenir pour sauver les êtres innocents que les lois de la guerre protègent chez toutes les nations, et qui en Crète sont obligés de fuir et de se cacher au fond des puits, dans le creux des ravins et dans les ruines d'Arcadion.

Le peuple Crétois, par l'organe de son Assemblée Générale, vous prie humblement, M. le Consul, de soumettre la présente à votre auguste Gouvernement.

Agréez, &c.

Callicrate, le 2 Février, 1867.

(L'Assemblée Générale.)

(Translation.)

Bulletin published on Sunday by the "Comité Centrale," after the arrival of the Austrian vessel from Canea.

THE news which we have from the different camps of Candia go up to the 6th instant.

The population of Candia has decided to answer by an appeal to arms the attempts made by Mustapha Pasha and by Server Effendi to find Representatives subservient to the call of the Sublime Porte. The fire of war is therefore rekindled in the eastern and western provinces.

This is a résumé of the joyful news which reaches us :—

Western Districts.—All the Sfakiotes are in arms and take part in the fights. The relations even, and the partisans of Tziridani, acting in concert and sincerity with their countrymen, have started for the eastern districts, where they are going to support the insurrection.

A Turkish steamer carried to Sfakia 1,000 kilogrammes of barley which Mustapha Pasha was sending to the famished inhabitants of the coastal parts of the district, hoping that he would thus succeed in attaching them to his cause. But the brave Sfakiotes sent the vessel back and answered like true Spartans : "We would rather die of hunger than receive gifts from the Sultan."

On the 30th of January a corps of Turkish troops of 5,000 men, commanded by Aali Pasha, left Canea to march to the western districts to attack a body of insurgents commanded by Zimbrakaki, Criari, Hadji Michali, and other native leaders. This body of insurgents was composed of Selinians, Kissamiotes, Apocoronians, and Rizotes, Thersians, Keramians, and others under their respective chiefs. Our men, having occupied advantageous positions, repulsed the enemy at a place called Mauvaises Côtes, and forced him to retire, after causing him to suffer great losses, and to encamp at a place called Hosti, where he asked for help from Canea. During the night of the same day, the intrepid Hadji Michali, with forty-five Sfakiotes, penetrated among the enemy's tents and caused great losses. He performed the same valiant act on the following night with 150 men. He concludes his report as follows :—

"The spring is drawing near ; we have begun with a victory at St. Roumeli, with victories at Sfakia and Hosti by night attacks. Our men are full of courage, the barbarians are full of fear. By God's grace I shall soon report to you victories gained by us."

The Provinces of Retimo and Heraclium.—On the 1st of February the Ottoman troops, divided into two columns and composed of 10,000 men, marched out of the towns of Heraclium and Retimo to enter into the district of Amérion. Our men, commanded by Korakos, Scoulas, Pavlis, Dedis, Dascalakis, Roméos, Franghias, Coroneos, Petropoulakis, Yenissarlis, Saratzoglous and others, occupied the passes and attacked the Turkish troops at the places called Yeracari, Mesonisia, and Trachilon, where they caused them great loss, and took 150 beasts of burden laden with provisions. On this glorious day nearly 100 Turks were made prisoners, and five flags and two cannons were taken.

A body of Christians appeared at the gate of Retimo, where they made prisoners and carried off cattle. The Turks at Retimo, in terror, threatened a general massacre of the Christians in the town, and the massacre actually began, and five unarmed Christians were slain. The Consulates were closed and armed themselves.

Another combat worthy of being recorded, took place at St. Thomas in the district of Messara, where our people gained a victory and killed 500 Turks.

Great efforts have been made, and are still being made, to persuade certain persons to accept the title of Representatives. Everywhere these efforts are failing. At Heraclium, a wine-merchant, a jeweller, a collector of tithes, have been found to fill this position. But all Crete has risen and protests against such a machination. The Assembly is sitting at Sfakia full of confidence, and works in perfect unison. It has just published a protest to all the Consuls.

The Turks in their despair have recommenced acts of vandalism. The accounts from Candia all speak of murders, of robberies, of temples profaned, of women dishonoured, and, wherever they pass, the barbarians give to sword and fire everything they meet with.

Protest.

M. le Consul,

By a private letter published without date, addressed to Mustapha Naïla Pasha, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan again attempts to deny the existence of the national war which the Island of Crete is waging against his arbitrary authority, and to attribute it to the action and instigations of foreigners and madmen.

To refute these slights against our national war, our only course, except the re-echoing voice of our arms, is to request you to compare this autograph letter from the Sultan, with the reply, dated July $\frac{11}{23}$, of his Grand Vizier Mohamet Rousty to the petition addressed on the $\frac{14}{26}$th of May to the Sultan by the Cretans, and to the circular, dated September $\frac{2}{14}$ of the same year, of the First Imperial Commissioner in Crete, Mustapha Naïla Pasha, to whom he now writes again.

The Cretans had at their side, to fight with them, only those who, after the Protest of the Cretan General Assembly of the 20th of July, and after the Proclamation of a national war, dated September $\frac{2}{14}$ of the same year, had ranged themselves beneath the banner of the Cross and of the Greek country. We have remarked amongst us no evil-doers except those who spurn under foot the rights of man, by denying liberty of conscience to individuals and free existence to nations.

The Cretan nation, desirous of absolving His Majesty the Sultan from the frequently recurring difficulty of justifying himself on account of the progress of affairs in Crete, and wishing to free himself from the necessity of performing daily acts of devotion, and of seeing the number of martyrs in the cause of liberty continually increasing, again appeals through the organ of the General Assembly to the high Protecting Powers, England, France, and Russia, and also to their allies, as it has done before, especially on the $\frac{2nd}{14th}$ of last October, and begs them to cause its wish to be freely declared by universal suffrage, under the superintendence of their Consuls, as was done at Nice, in Savoy, and in Venetia. It protests against every political artifice of any one of the Sultan's Governors, which would put restraint upon its liberty, and against every manifestation of the wishes of the populations made under the pressure of violence.

We beg you, M. le Consul, to submit this our Protest to your august Government.

Callicrate, February 3, 1867.

We have, &c.

(The General Assembly.)

M. le Consul,

The Cretan people, weary of the lies and cruelties of Ottoman authority more than of the victories of its armies, which are reputed to be so warlike, have decided to fight till they are exterminated.

Neither their courage nor their strength are yet so exhausted that they need be compelled to pray for mercy from Turkey.

They are afflicted only at seeing feeble creatures, their wives and babes, fall helpless victims under the knives of the Mussulmans. They are still more afflicted at beholding the indifference shown for their sufferings by the Christian Governments who have thus become accomplices in the barbarous acts of the Turks.

The Cretan people, counting as nothing the disasters they have up to this time suffered, only beseech the Christian world to interfere to save the innocent beings whom the laws of war everywhere protect, but who in Crete are obliged to fly and hide themselves at the bottoms of wells, in the crevices of ravines, and among the ruins of Arcadion.

The Cretan people, through the organ of their General Assembly, humbly beg you, M. le Consul, to submit this document to your august Government.

We have, &c.

(The General Assembly.)

Callicrate, February 2, 1867.

No. 35.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord, *Athens, February* 28, 1867.

WITH reference to Mr. Consul Dickson's last reports from Crete of the 23rd and 25th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract from a letter from Lieutenant Murray, of Her Majesty's ship "Wizard," of the same date, giving a most deplorable account of the state of affairs in Crete, and especially of the behaviour of the Turkish troops and the native Mussulmans towards the inoffensive Christians of Retimo and the neighbourhood of Canea.

Mr. Consul Lloyd reports that the new blockade-runner "Arkadi" had been on a trial trip to the Island of Tinos, and would very shortly make her first attempt to land a cargo in Crete, which has been transhipped from the "Panhellenion." Turkish cruizers are said to be on the look-out for her at Cerigo, Cerigotto, Nio, Milo, Santorino, and Paros. She has been armed with four guns. I have the honour to inclose an extract from a letter from Mr. Lloyd, reporting the transfer of this vessel to her Greek owners, and her assumption of the Greek flag.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

Lieutenant Murray, R.N., to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, February* 24, 1867.

THINGS appear to get worse and worse, and the end appears further off than it did six months ago. To-day the troops returned from an unsuccessful attempt to force a passage into Omalos, partly owing, they say, to the plain being covered with melted snow, but in a great measure owing to the stubborn resistance offered by the insurgents under Zimbrakakis; what the next move will be I am as yet unable to say,—report says they are going to Kissamos. I fancy unless reinforcements arrive, they will soon have to withdraw inside the fortified towns.

February 25th.—A sad tale was told to me yesterday. A shoemaker living in Canea and well known to all as a quiet peaceful man, fled to the hills when the insurrection broke out; there he followed his trade, till three months ago, when the country round Canea appearing to be pretty quiet he came and settled at the village of Fourna, in the plain of Alikiano. A few days ago his wife ran in and said, There are soldiers coming into the village; he replied, "Don't be alarmed, they have been here before." A few minutes afterwaads two soldiers dragged him out of the house and beat him so that they broke his arm, which caused him to faint. His wife brought him some water, as did also an officer, and left him; shortly afterwards, while he was still unable to rise, two other soldiers came up and dispatched him with their swords. This is the history of one out of eighteen killed in the same village that day, told me by his poor wife, who, together with her four children, came to seek redress from Mustapha Pasha; he gave her 200 piastres and said he would inquire about it.

I am sorry to tell you that the troops have again gone out, one division to Kissamos,

the other to Apocorona. The people are again flying to the hills before the advent of the troops, and I greatly fear more atrocities.

Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, February* 26, 1867.

YESTERDAY the master of the "Dream" came to me and exhibited his instructions, which required him to proceed to Syra, and on arrival consign himself to Messrs. Petro, Ralli, and Co., and deliver to them the "Dream" with everything on board; then to take the register to the Consul and deliver it up to him, telling him the vessel had been sold to foreigners, and requiring him to discharge from the agreement such of the crew that did not wish to return to England, the master having to return with the remainder to England.

I have also seen the bill of sale of the vessel (which is the present owner's title), whence it appears the vessel had been sold in Liverpool by Messrs. Pappayani to the Greek Steam Navigation Company in Syra. The ship's agreement with crew was for a voyage to the Mediterranean and Black Sea and back. I have got the register and have discharged twelve of the crew, who remain here and have entered the Greek Company's service, and the master leaves this to-morrow for Smyrna with the rest of the crew. I have been all the afternoon discharging these men and seeing their wages paid, &c.

Yesterday the "Dream" changed flags and name, and is now "Arkadi," and to-morrow goes on a trial trip to Tinos and to be baptized by the Bishop who is there.

No. 36.

M. Tricoupi to M. Brailas-Armeni.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. Brailas-Armeni, March* 11.)

(Traduction.)

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{20 \text{ Janvier}}{1 \text{ Fevrier}}$, 1867.

M. ERSKINE étant venu me voir hier, m'a donné lecture d'une dépêche* de Lord Stanley ayant trait à un entretien que j'ai eu avec le Ministre de la Grande Bretagne au sujet de la politique suivie par le Gouvernement Grec dans la question Crétoise.

M. Erskine avait écrit, ainsi qu'il résulte de la réponse de Lord Stanley, que je lui avait dis, entr'autres, que les sentiments du peuple Hellène en faveur de la lutte des Crétois étaient si ardents que, si le Gouvernement Hellénique, fût-ce le Cabinet actuel ou tout autre, tentait d'en reprimer la manifestation, l'administration du pays deviendrait impossible.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique y objecte que la pression exercée par le peuple Hellène ne saurait justifier le Gouvernement Hellénique agissant contrairement aux Traités et aux principes généralement admis du droit des gens. Il ajoute dans sa dépêche que, si le Gouvernement Hellénique continue d'appuyer la lutte Crétoise en violation des Traités, l'Angleterre se considérera comme affranchie de toute obligation de garantie, et ne prêtera point son assistance à la Grèce contre les conséquences d'une semblable conduite.

Après la lecture de cette dépêche j'ai fait observer à M. Erskine que l'idée que je lui avais exprimée, et dont Lord Stanley fait mention, est que le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait empêcher le peuple Grec de faire en faveur de la lutte Crétoise ce que les Traités et le droit international permettent aux sujets d'une Puissance neutre; que, pour réprimer les actes des citoyens Grecs, le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait enfreindre les lois du Royaume, et que, s'il faisait cela, on arriverait à un résultat tout à fait opposé à celui qu'ont en vue ceux qui expriment une pareille exigence; car ce n'est que dans la force de l'administration qu'on pourrait avoir la garantie du maintien de l'ordre en Orient; or une marche du Gouvernement contraire aux lois en vigueur dans le Royaume lui ôterait toute influence.

J'ai rappellé encore à M. Erskine que je lui avais dit que notre législation était suffisante pour faire respecter les obligations de neutralité, n'étant qu'une paraphrase des législations de l'Europe civilisée; mais que, quand même elle aurait été insuffisante, les règles de la neutralité n'en auraient pas permis le changement pendant la guerre en faveur de l'un des belligérants.

* See "Correspondence respecting Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament February 11, 1867, page 156.

M. Erskine a admis que je m'étais exprimé, en effet, ainsi, et m'a promis d'éclaircir ce point en écrivant à Lord Stanley.

Je lui ai fait remarquer encore que je ne pouvais pas passer sous silence l'expression de Lord Stanley : —" Si la Grèce continue d'encourager la lutte Crétoise contrairement aux Traités !"

Le mot " continue," ai-je dit, implique l'idée que jusqu'à présent la Grèce violait ses obligations, ce qui n'est nullement d'accord avec les choses, car l'envoi d'armes de munitions et d'hommes par des particuliers à l'un des bélligérants n'engage point la responsabilité des Gouvernements neutres ; et c'est là ce que la Grande Bretagne a toujours prétendu, et les autres Puissances ont admis.

M. Erskine a reconnu la justesse de ces observations et a ajouté que la conduite du Cabinet actuel est conforme aux principes du droits des gens ; mais il a fait mention du bruit qui s'était répandu, que la frégate " Hellas " avait escorté le " Panhellénion " jusqu'aux Iles d'Ios et de Cérigo ; il a dit en terminant que c'est à cet acte que fait allusion la dépêche de Lord Stanley. J'y ai opposé que nous ignorions complètement ce qu'a fait " l'Hellas ;" mais quand même ce bâtiment de guerre aurait fait ce que M. Erskine considère comme certain, c'est-à-dire, qu'il aurait fait route d'Ios à Cérigo en même temps que le " Panhellénion," ceci ne constitue violation des règles de la neutralité, puisqu'il est dans notre droit de veiller à ce que la souveraineté de l'Etat sur la mer territoriale ne soit pas violée.

Enfin j'ai fait remarquer à M. Erskine qu'à mon avis l'obligation de l'Angleterre, comme Puissance garante, vis-à-vis de la Grèce, reste intacte, et que j'étais pleinement convaincu que Lord Stanley serait éclairé sur la vérité et rendrait justice au Gouvernement Grec.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens*, $\frac{\text{January } 20}{\text{February } 1}$, 1867.

MR. ERSKINE came to see me yesterday, and read to me a despatch from Lord Stanley, having reference to an interview which I had with the Minister of Great Britain, on the subject of the policy pursued by the Government of Greece in the Cretan question.

Mr. Erskine wrote, as it appears from Lord Stanley's answer, that I had told him, amongst other things, that the sentiments of the Greek people were so strongly in favour of the struggle of the Cretans, that if the Greek Government, be it the present or any other Cabinet, should attempt to repress the manifestation of them, it would become impossible to carry on the administration of the country.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Britannic Majesty rejoins, that the pressure applied by the Greek people does not justify the Greek Government in acting contrary to the Treaties, and the principles generally recognized by the law of nations. He adds, in his despatch, that if the Greek Government continues to support the Cretan struggle in violation of Treaties, England will consider herself absolved from every obligation of guaranty, and will not lend her assistance to Greece against the consequences of such conduct.

After reading this despatch, I pointed out to Mr. Erskine that the idea I had expressed to him, and which is mentioned by Lord Stanley is, that the Greek Government cannot prevent the Greek people from doing in favour of the Cretan struggle that which the Treaties and international law permit to the subjects of a neutral Power ; that the Greek Government could not infringe the laws of the Kingdom in order to repress the acts of Greek citizens, and that, if it were to take sueh a course, a result would be arrived at quite opposite to that contemplated by those who recognized such a necessity ; for the only guarantee for the maintenance of order in the East lies in the power of the Administration ; but a step taken by the Government contrary to the laws in force would rob it of all influence.

I also reminded Mr. Erskine that I had said to him that our legislation was sufficient to command the respect of obligations of neutrality, it only being a paraphrase of the legislations of civilized Europe ; but that even if it was insufficient, the rules of neutrality would not have permitted that a change should have been made during war in favour of one of the belligerents.

Mr. Erskine admitted that I had expressed myself in this sense, and promised to explain this point in writing to Lord Stanley.

I also observed to him that I could not pass over in silence the expression of Lord Stanley, " If Greece continues to encourage the struggle in Crete contrary to Treaties."

The word " continue," I said, implies the idea that up to now Greece has been violating her obligations, which is not at all the case ; for the sending of arms, munitions,

and men by private people to one of the belligerents does not make a neutral Government responsible, and that is what Great Britain has always asserted, and the other Powers have admitted.

Mr. Erskine recognized the justice of these observations, and added that the conduct of the present Cabinet is in conformity with the principles of international law; but he alluded to the report which had got about that the frigate "Hellas" had escorted the "Panhellenion" to the Islands of Ios and Cerigo. He said, in conclusion, that it was to that act that Lord Stanley's despatch alluded. I argued that we were quite ignorant of what the "Hellas" did, but that even if that ship of war had done what Mr. Erskine looks upon as a fact, namely, if it had gone from Ios to Cerigo at the same time as the "Panhellenion," this does not constitute a violation of the rules of neutrality, as we have the right to watch that the sovereignty of the State on territorial waters shall not be violated.

Finally, I begged Mr. Erskine to observe that, in my opinion, the obligation of England, as a guaranteeing Power, towards Greece remained the same, and that I was fully convinced that Lord Stanley would be convinced of its truth, and would do justice to the Greek Government.

No. 37.

M. Tricoupi to M. Delyanni.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. Brailas-Armeni, March* 12.)

(Traduction.)

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{24 \text{ Janvier}}{5 \text{ Fevrier}}$ 1867.

M. LE COMTE DE GOBINEAU étant venue me voir, il y a quelques jours, au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, me donna lecture d'une dépêche de M. le Marquis de Moustier ayant trait à la politique du Gouvernement Hellénique, et à votre nomination comme Ministre du Roi à Paris.

M. de Moustier s'y exprime d'une manière très favorable et pour le Ministère et pour vous; mais, parmi les raisons pour lesquelles il loue ceux qui gouvernent aujourd'hui la Grèce, il relate, comme un renseignement donné par M. de Gobineau, que le Ministère actuel repousse la politique extérieure de son devancier.

A ce sujet j'ai fait observer à M. le Ministre de France que nous ne lui avons jamais exprimé cette idée, mais qu'au contraire le Gouvernement actuel se considère, à l'égard des Puissances étrangères, comme uni par un lien de solidarité avec le Gouvernement précédent. J'ai fait, en outre, observer à M. de Gobineau que nous avons soutenu et soutenons que ce Gouvernement a toujours respecté les obligations découlant pour la Grèce des Traités et du droit international.

M. de Gobineau répondit n'avoir jamais, en effet, entendu de moi ou de quelqu'autre de mes collègues, une opinion contraire à ce que je lui dis, ni avoir écrit quelque chose à M. de Moustier qui pourrait être pris dans ce sens. Il m'a ajouté que cette phrase lui a, d'ailleurs, été inspirée, sans contredit, par une intention amicale, mais que, néanmoins, il ne manquera pas de rapporter mon observation au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de l'Empereur.

Je vous donne communication de ce qui précède, non pas pour que vous provoquiez une explication, mais seulement pour que vous soyez au courant de ce qui s'est passé, si par hasard M. de Moustier vous en parle.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens,* $\frac{\text{January } 24}{\text{February } 5}$, 1867.

M. LE COMTE DE GOBINEAU came to see me some days ago at the Foreign Office, and read to me a despatch from the Marquis de Moustier, referring to the policy of the Greek Government, and to your nomination as Minister of the King in Paris.

M. de Moustier expresses himself in a very favourable manner towards the Government and yourself; but among the reasons for praising those who are now governing Greece, he relates, as information given by M. de Gobineau, that the present Government repudiates the foreign policy of its predecessor.

Upon this point I observed to the French Minister that we had never expressed this idea to him, but that, on the contrary, the existing Government considers itself, as regards foreign Powers, as bound by a firm tie to the preceding Government. I also observed to M. de Gobineau that we have maintained and do still maintain that that Government has always respected the obligations entailed upon Greece by Treaties and international law.

M. de Gobineau answered that he had, in effect, never heard from me or from any of my colleagues an opinion contrary to what I had expressed to him, nor had he written anything to M. de Moustier that could be taken in that sense. He added also that he had most certainly used that expression with a friendly intention, but that he would nevertheless not fail to report my observation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Emperor.

I have made the above communication to you, not with a view to eliciting an explanation, but merely that you may be aware of what took place, in case M. de Moustier should by chance allude to the subject.

No. 38.

M. Tricoupi to M. Brailas-Armeni.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. Brailas-Armeni, March* 11.)

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{10}{22}$ *Février*, 1867.

JE viens de recevoir l'exemplaire que vous m'avez expedié du livre contenant la correspondance présentée au Parlement par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique au sujet de l'insurrection de Candie.

Il n'est point d'usage de faire des publications de cette nature le sujet de communications diplomatiques. Aussi je m'abstiens de relever certaines assertions et certaines appréciations que j'y ai lue avec regret.

Je ne saurais cependant passer sous silence un passage du rapport de Mr. Erskine à Lord Stanley, en date du 3 Janvier, 1867. Ce passage est ainsi conçu :—

"M. Tricoupi a dit que quoique les actes qui avaient porté le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté à faire cette déclaration n'avaient pas eu lieu sous le Ministère actuel, il ne pouvait nier qu'ils pourraient constituer une cause suffisante de querelle de la part de la Porte, mais qu'il espérait encore que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne retirerait pas complètement sa protection de la Grèce, et qu'il prendrait en considération la position extrêmement difficile dans laquelle elle se trouvait."

La manière inexacte dont Mr. Erskine a rendu compte de mes observations dans ce passage, pourrait laisser entendre que le Ministère auquel nous avons succédé avait négligé ses obligations internationales.

Vous n'ignorez pas, M. le Ministre, combien nous sommes loin de partager de telles opinions. Depuis notre entrée aux affaires, nous avons constamment déclaré que nous assumions toute la responsabilité envers les Puissances étrangères des actes de nos prédécesseurs ; nous avons aussi maintenu que rien dans la conduite du Gouvernement Hellénique, sans distinction de Ministère, ne pouvait donner lieu à de justes plaintes de la part de la Turquie. La dépêche que je vous ai adressée en date du $\frac{20 \text{ Janvier}}{1 \text{ Février}}$ et celle que j'ai adressée en date du $\frac{24 \text{ Janvier}}{5 \text{ Février}}$ à votre collègue à Paris, et que je vous ai aussi communiquée, se complétant entre elles, établissent ces points d'une manière évidente.

Vous avez, sans doute, parlé déjà à Lord Stanley dans le sens de ces dépêches, mais il devient nécessaire maintenant que vous fassiez part à son Excellence de leur contenu textuellement, et que vous en remettiez entre ses mains une traduction accompagnée d'une copie de la présente.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) CH. TRICOUPI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens, February* $\frac{10}{22}$, 1867.

I HAVE just received the copy you sent me of the book containing the correspondence presented to Parliament by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, on the subject of the insurrection in Candia.

It is not the custom to make publications of that nature the subject of diplomatic communications, so I abstain from noticing certain assertions and certain interpretations which I have read with regret.

I cannot, however, pass over in silence a passage in the Report of Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley, dated the 3rd of January, 1867. That passage runs thus :—

"M. Tricoupi said that although the acts which had led the Government of Her Majesty to make that declaration had not taken ptace under the present Ministry, he could not deny that they might constitute a sufficient cause for a quarrel on the part of the Porte, but that he still hoped that the Government of Her Majesty would not completely withdraw their protection from Greece, and that they would take into consideration the extremely difficult position in which they were placed."

The inexact manner in which Mr. Erskine related my observations in this passage might leave it to be implied that the Ministry we succeeded had neglected its international obligations.

You are not ignorant, M. le Ministre, how far we are from sharing this opinion. Since we have come into office we have constantly declared that we would assume all responsibility towards foreign Powers for the acts of our predecessors; we have also maintained that nothing in the conduct of the Greek Government, without distinction of Ministry, could give just cause of complaint to Turkey. The despatch which I addressed to you dated $\frac{\text{January } 20}{\text{February } 1}$, and that of $\frac{\text{January } 24}{\text{February } 5}$, to your colleague at Paris, and which I also communicated to you, forming a complete series, establish these points in an evident manner.

You have without doubt already spokên to Lord Stanley in the sense of these despatches, but it becomes necessary now that you should communicate the text of them to his Excellency, and that you should place in his hands a translation, accompanied by a copy of this despatch.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) CH. TRICOUPI.

No. 39.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 23, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a translation of a letter received from Mr. Consular Agent G. Calocherino, reporting a series of gross outrages that have lately been committed at Retimo town and in some villages in that province by Cretan Turks, and also the troops.

This painful occurrence, it would appear, originated in a foray made by a band of native insurgents and foreign volunteers upon some Mussulman property in the neighbourhood of that town, and to which fact I alluded in my despatch of the 18th instant.

The facts of this lamentable affair appeared to me such as to warrant my communicating Mr. G. Calocherino's letter to the Imperial Commissioner. His Highness, while admitting the truth of some of the charges therein preferred, considered that the others may have been exaggerated, since he himself had received no positive information. That as regards the articles of Christian property reported to have been seized on the occasion, he had given orders that the same should be restored to their rightful owners.

I ventured privately to remark to Mustapha Pasha, at the same time, that the late proceedings in Retimo province proved that the conduct of the Turkish authorities there was not in conformity with the conciliatory and prudent policy so auspiciously adopted towards the peaceable Christians by his Highness at Canea since his return, and, as I had also understood, was henceforth to be pursued by his subordinate officers.

Ali Riza Pasha, with his expeditionary force, returned to Canea yesterday, the band under the command of Colonel Zimbrakaki having dispersed. In consequence of the recent cold weather, and the plain of Omalos being completely inundated, the onward march on the Turkish army has been countermanded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—February 25th.—Ali Riza Pasha's force has again set out, this time for Kissamos District.

The district of Apokorona is also being re-occupied by the two battalions at Kalyves and a brigade from Canea.

An Italian and an Austrian ship-of-war have left Suda Bay for Retimo and Candia.

C. H. D.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, Crete, February* $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

CONFIRMING my preceding letter of the 5th instant, I now announce to you that the Local Authority has invited the Province of Retimo to elect Delegates, and send the same to Constantinople, on the question of the Island.

On the same day a party of insurgents proceeded to the village called Metokhi, two hours distant from this city, and plundered everything they could find.

On the 7th the Irregulars, and a party of Regular troops, returning from Mylopotamo, committed on the road all kinds of excesses. They destroyed the village of Anoya, and others besides, and carried off many head of cattle and a quantity of booty.

On the 8th five Ottoman steamers approached this port, on board of which upwards of 300 foreign volunteers embarked, to be transported to the Piræus.

Aristides Manussos, a military surgeon, and Kostaki Bernedaki, an apothecary, have been under arrest for the last fifteen days, in consequence of their having spoken with some foreign volunteers, bestowing upon the latter acts of kindness, giving them clothes, money, &c.

The Turks are daily going out to the villages near Retimo, and cease not to molest and threaten the lives of the peaceable Christians, who are, besides, defenceless. They cut down olive-trees and other fruit-trees, and destroy every other plant they find.

On the 13th, 14th, and 15th instant, a battle was fought in the district of Amari, between the Christians, commanded by Coroneos and other Chiefs, and the Imperial troops that had gone out from Candia.

This battle, according to report, ended in favour of the Christians. The Turks lost 150 killed and wounded, besides a quantity of supplies, three cannon, and ammunition. The Christian casualties were only few.

Previously to and after this battle, the Turks passed through several villages in the districts of Amari and St. Vassali, namely:—Monasteraki, St. Amari, Merònа, Kùmia, Ardakton, St. Pelàyia, Daribianà, Spili, Dumarejes, Platamiatos.

The inhabitants of these villages, as also those in Mylopotamos district, having submitted, had remained quiet, trusting to the promises of the Imperial Commissioner and other Pashas.

These same Turks have sacked, burnt, and otherwise destroyed houses, violated churches, killed those men they met, and outraged women and young girls in the most brutal and inhuman manner.

The booty seized is being sold in town by public auction, and under the eyes of the authorities.

Three days since some insurgents robbed 150 head of cattle in the neighbourhood of our town, and also carried off four children who were looking after these animals.

The same day the Turks announced that the cattle in question were more than 700; whereupon several armed Turks went out of the town, while others obstructed, in a threatening manner, the departure of Christians. Many of the latter were beaten about in a merciless manner, their heads cut open, and pelted with stones. By a mere chance the Lieutenant-Governor, with some soldiers, came forward; also some Europeans. These interfered at the risk of their lives, and having rescued the unfortunate Christians, sent those that were wounded to be healed by the surgeons. On that occasion an European, by name Guarino, was also maltreated.

The Lieutenant-Governor at once took precautionary measures, and ordered all the Christians to retire to the houses of the Consular Agents and to the churches. He placed sentries at the churches: guards were patrolled through the streets, and thus warded off all further danger.

A detachment of regular troops was called in. At the same time arrived two Ottoman steamers, on the return of which to Canea information has been transmitted of the painful occurrence.

To-day another steam-ship conveyed hither Mehmed Pasha and more troops, and it is to be hoped that all further danger may have passed off.

The misconduct of the soldiery in and out of this town has created a wide-spread panic in Retimo province.

The Lieutenant-Governor was yesterday obliged to escort, along with a guard, to some distance outside the town, those Christians who wanted to return to their villages.

To-day arrived from the villages Christian men, women, and children, all seeking refuge and asking to quit the place, having been stripped, persecuted, and even fired upon by the Turks, who for the last two days left the town. These declared that they have been retaliating upon the peaceable Christians the outrages committed upon them (the Turks) by the insurgents; and they further persisted in exacting from the village of Galo the cattle and the shepherd boys that had been carried off by the malcontents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 40.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 11, 1867.

IN an interview which I had with the Greek Minister to-day he informed me that he was directed by his Government to state, as a positive fact, resulting from inquiry made by them, that no life was lost in the tumult which occurred on the landing at the Piræus, on the 21st of January, of some volunteers returning from Crete.

It is difficult to reconcile this statement with the information given to you, as reported in your despatch of the 23rd of January,* by the French Admiral and Captain Hillyar, of Her Majesty's ship "Resistance," both of whom were present on the occasion, and concur in stating, either from what they themselves witnessed, or from what was reported to them by officers under their orders, that the discreditable outrage which occurred on the landing of the volunteers was attended certainly with the loss of ten lives, and in all probability with the loss of many more.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 41.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 11, 1867.

THE Greek Minister called upon me to-day, and left with me the despatches from M. Tricoupi, of which I inclose copies,† with the view of correcting what he alleges to be an erroneous report of your conversation with him, contained in your despatch of the 3rd of January.‡ M. Brailas said that M. Tricoupi requested that in any future publication of correspondence respecting Greece notice should be taken of this correction, and I promised M. Brailas that it should be; and you may inform M. Tricoupi that copies of his despatches will accordingly be textually inserted in any further collection of Papers respecting the Cretan insurrection which may be presented to Parliament.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 42.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 11, 1867.

THE Turkish Ambassador called and read to me to-day several despatches which he had received from his Government, in one of which the Porte expressed in very warm terms its gratitude for the part taken by England in the Cretan quarrel. In another the Porte repeated its previously-announced determination to listen to no proposal either for the cession of Crete or for the so-called rectification of the Greek frontier. In another the earnest desire of the Sultan to maintain peace with the Greek kingdom was dwelt on; but fears were expressed that this would become impossible if the Greek Government continued to hold its present aggressive attitude.

In reference to these two last communications I informed M. Musurus that I was in no way surprised to hear of the determination of his Government to resist all dismemberment of the Empire; but that, without going into the details of the differences existing between Turkey and Greece, I must again impress upon him most urgently the danger which might arise, not only to the interests of the Porte, but to those of Europe, if a war were once allowed to break out. It was impossible to foresee in that case how widely it might spread, or what might be its ultimate consequences.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

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* See "Correspondence respecting Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament February 11, 1867, page 176.

† Nos. 36, 37, and 38.

‡ See "Correspondence respecting Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament February 11, 1867, page 164.

No. 43.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 11, 1867.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings and the language which you held to the Porte upon the subject of the removal of unfortunate women and children from Crete, as reported in your despatch of the 27th ultimo, and I have to instruct your Excellency to continue to urge on the Turkish Government the necessity of doing what it can to relieve the distress caused by the insurrection in Crete.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 44.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 12, 1867.

THE Turkish Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and left with me a copy of a telegraphic despatch which he had just received from Constantinople, and of which the following is the substance:—

The Porte, it says, although it has not received official confirmation of the accounts in circulation respecting the forlorn situation of widows and orphans who are victims of the insurrection in Crete, has nevertheless dispatched to that island Costaki Effendi, an officer of the Foreign Department, and Savas Effendi, a medical man, with instructions to set on foot, under the superintendence of Server Effendi, a Commission for the purpose of affording relief to distressed families, and will place at the disposal of the Commission a large quantity of provisions and other necessaries.

I told M. Musurus that Her Majesty's Government regarded the step taken by the Porte with peculiar satisfaction, since it would at once meet the just claims of humanity, and put an end to the requests addressed to foreign Powers to send ships of war to Crete for the rescue of the families of the insurgents.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 45.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 13, 1867.

THE French Ambassador communicated to me this afternoon the substance of a despatch which he had just received from M. de Moustier, and which was to the following effect:—

The Cretan revolt, M. de Moustier says, still continues, and agitation appears to be spreading on the island. The measures of pacification adopted by the Porte have proved useless, and the sending of Delegates to Constantinople will be little better than a mockery. They will be simply persons nominated by the authorities and without independence, and who will in no degree represent the feeling of the islanders.

Turkey cannot continue long to exist under its present conditions. The disproportion between its necessities and its resources is too great. Its only chance is to concentrate instead of dispersing its forces, and carefully to avoid exhausting what little vitality it still retains.

The separation of Crete is, in the judgment of the French Government, inevitable; but the Porte had better consult *bonâ fide* the population of the island as to whether they wish for annexation to Greece. The Porte would thus save its dignity by acting on its own initiative.

The French Ambassador at Constantinople will be instructed to hold this language, though with all the consideration due to a friendly Power; and M. de Moustier asks that Her Majesty's Ambassador should be authorized to support the advice offered by him.

In reply to this communication I expressed to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne my conviction that the recommendation to cede Crete, whether good or bad in itself, would not

be taken, and I declined, at any rate for the present, to concur in it. If, as M. de Moustier seemed to expect, the war were to continue, and its area to be enlarged, it might then, no doubt, be a question whether the sacrifice now proposed ought not to be made. But that was a matter the decision upon which could not be arrived at in haste, and would certainly be premature at present.

Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne said he hoped that at any rate Her Majesty's Government would not place itself in opposition to that of the Emperor by urging the Porte to refuse the friendly advice which they felt it their duty to give. I assured him that if the Porte were willing to agree to the cession, Her Majesty's Government would not oppose it; the Sultan must be the best judge of his own interests and duty. It was the wish of Her Majesty's Government, as far as possible, to act in concert with that of the Emperor, and I had already explained more than once the reasons that prevented my doing so in the present instance.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY

No. 46.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March 6, 1867.*

MR. CONSUL LLOYD reports that, on the 1st instant, the new blockade-runner "Arkadi" left Syra (as was said there) for Sfakia, in Crete, having on board 100 volunteers, and a complete cargo of ammunition, provisions, &c., equal in all to about three ordinary cargoes taken by the "Panhellenion." She was expected back on the 3rd instant, but I have not yet heard of her return. On her trial-trip the weather was so bad, and the time so short, that her speed could not be ascertained with any accuracy; but I hear, on good authority, that the Turkish cruizers "Thalia" and "Fuad" ought, under ordinary circumstances, to beat her. She is armed and has been pierced for eight small guns, and Photiades Bey has stated to M. Tricoupi that he has been informed by the Ottoman Consul at Syra that her guns were supplied by the Government Arsenal, and that she took on board eight artillerymen to serve them. M. Tricoupi, of course, denied the accuracy of this statement, but promised to inquire into the matter and acquaint M. Photiades with the result to-morrow.

P.S. *March 7.*—I inclose a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting the safe return of the "Arkadi" to Syra, after landing her cargo in Sfakia, without meeting a Turkish cruizer.

In a letter of the 5th instant Mr. Lloyd reports that the "Arkadi" went round by the east of Crete, instead of the west, as the "Panhellenion" used to do. She brought back twenty volunteers in all, of whom eight are wounded. One of these men having publicly abused the Cretans as traitors, in the streets of Syra, a Cretan who was in the Casino rushed out and commenced an angry discussion with the volunteer, who ended by drawing a revolver and pointing it at the breast of his adversary. Fortunately at this stage of the discussion the bystanders interfered and separated the disputants before any mischief was done.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, March 4, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the Greek paddle-steamer "Arkadi" (late British steamer "Dream," arrived here from Liverpool on the 24th ultimo) which left Syra on the 1st instant to run the blockade of Crete with provisions, ammunition, &c. (about three ordinary cargoes of the "Panhellenion") and 100 volunteers, returned to Syra this morning, having made, it is said, a most successful run and discharged all her cargo at Sfakia on Saturday night the 2nd instant. She has brought back twenty-seven families, in all 102 souls, the birth of a girl having occurred on board. The vessel ran at full speed for three hours and averaged over fifteen knots, equal to seventeen and a quarter miles. Another informant tells me that among the returned passengers are some eight or ten wounded volunteers; that the "Arkadi" did not sight a single Turkish cruizer; that some of the families now brought here were seen from the steamer encamped in the snow in the district of Messara, when the captain of the "Arkadi" stopped and sent a boat on

shore which brought them off; and that the rest all came from Sfakia, where the "Arkadi" remained four hours.

The inclosed I have this instant received, the original having been brought by the "Arkadi."

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

Proclamation of the Provisional Government.

(Translation.)

Cretans!

GUIDED by ten months' experience and by the aims of the insurrection, that is to say, by the interests of the country, and desirous to regulate the course of the national struggle as well as to facilitate the operations and fatigues of the national forces, the General Assembly of the Cretans have decided, by their Decree of the $\frac{1}{13}$th February last, to establish an insurrectionary Government in the name of George I, King of the Hellenes.

It has been further decided that the Provisional Government of Crete shall consist of seven members and of a Secretary.

In obedience to the will of the nation and to the vote of our respected brethren, we have consented to serve our country.

Our action is prescribed by the Decree of the Assembly.

We foresee the difficulties we shall have to encounter and the wants for which we must provide in order that the national struggle which our country has undertaken for the national greatness may attain its purpose. We are not unmindful of the sufferings and privations which, for the sake of this struggle, are endured by heads of families, by Cretan soldiers and by the destitute volunteers. We have witnessed the enormities committed by the Turks, and our heart was afflicted and our eyes moved to tears on account of their brutality and profaneness. We are fully acquainted with the unmanly and cruel attack upon unarmed and inoffensive people, and with the violation of the Temple of God and with the sacrilegious conduct of the Turks of Asia and Africa! We have calculated our means of carrying on the struggle and the evils from which the country is suffering. We confide in the manly perseverance and patience of the Cretan soldiers and heads of families and the self-denial of the volunteers, and we are induced by the noble object of the national contest to serve our country in obedience to the calls of our brethren and in expectation of the support of all our countrymen, and to the patriotism and steadfastness of those who are fighting for the greatness of Greece. Having accepted this task we shall shortly issue the necessary orders to the military chiefs of each district, &c.

Calikrati Sphakia, $\frac{\text{February } 18}{\text{March } 2}$, 1867.

The Provisional Government of Crete,
(Signed) A. J. TSICHLES.
A. MANOUSELES.
A. PAPPAYANAKIS.
M. KYRIAKIDES.
CONST. ERN. SAROLIDAKES.
C. P. BELONDAKES.
MICHAEL TSONDEROS.

The Secretary,
(Signed) LEONIDAS G. GEORGIADES LOGIOS.

No. 47.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 6, 1867.

THE Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs have assured me that effectual measures are to be taken immediately for the relief of the sufferings of the population of Crete. Their Highnesses state that Dr. Savas, an eminent physician practising here, and Mr. Costaki Atheodosidi, one of the employés of the Foreign Department, will set out for Crete to-morrow, and form, with Server Effendi—who was, as your Lordship is aware, sent thither some time ago on special service—a Commission to ascertain the wants of the

suffering people, and give them speedy relief. Dr. Savas and M. Atheodosidi will, I am informed, take with them a supply of money as well as of linen and other necessaries.

The Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs have further declared to me that should any of the Cretans desire to quit the island, the Porte will be ready to afford them means of conveyance to any part of the Sultan's dominions.

Dr. Savas and M. Atheodosidi are both Christian subjects of the Porte. Dr. Savas is, I understand, a man of great energy and activity.

A communication has been made from the Porte to the Greek Patriarch, to the effect that the Sultan has signified his pleasure that the Monastery of Arkadi, a part of which was destroyed by the explosion which took place on its capture, shall be repaired at His Imperial Majesty's own expense.

With reference to my despatch of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of an instruction respecting the suffering women and children in Crete which I addressed to Mr. Consul Dickson on the 1st instant, and a copy of a further instruction which I have addressed to him to-day. Your Lordship will observe that I have desired him to report upon the measures taken by the Commission for the relief of the wants of the Cretans, and to be particular in ascertaining and stating the practical results of those measures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 47.

Lord Lyons to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Constantinople, March* 1, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatches to that of the 18th ultimo.

In my despatch of the 25th of January last I informed you that I was assured by Aali Pasha, then Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Server Effendi would press the adoption of immediate measures for the relief of the unfortunate families of the Cretan insurgents, and for facilitating the removal of these families from the places in which they were suffering from hunger and cold.

I have not been able to ascertain that Server Effendi has made any distinct reports to the Government here on this matter. It is, however, stated to me by Fuad Pasha, the present Minister for Foreign Affairs, that there are no longer families on the sea-shore suffering from hunger and cold, and looking out for vessels to carry them away. Fuad Pasha says, moreover, that order and tranquillity have been so far restored that he doubts whether there are many native Cretans who now desire to quit the island, or who would gain anything by doing so. He assures me that every effort will be made by the authorities to relieve the distress which has been the consequence of the insurrection; and adds, that although the Porte cannot sanction the removal of subjects of the Sultan by foreign men-of-war, it would itself be willing to afford means of transport to places of refuge within the Empire to Cretans really desirous of leaving their country, and likely to escape sufferings by doing so.

I wish to know whether there are, in fact, any considerable number of families still suffering from exposure to the weather and hunger; and if so, what are the measures which would, in your opinion, be best calculated to afford them speedy and effectual relief. You will not hesitate to press the immediate adoption of such measures upon the Ottoman authorities; and you will not fail to remind them that if the Porte prevents the removal of the suffering women and children by foreign ships of war, it is on that account more than ever incumbent upon its officers to take thought for these unfortunate people.

You will address a special Report to me upon these matters, and will send copies of it to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to Her Majesty's Minister at Athens.

I am, &c.
(Signed) LYONS

Inclosure 2 in No. 47.

Lord Lyons to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Constantinople, March* 6, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatches to that of the 18th ultimo inclusive.

The Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs have assured me that effectual

measures are to be taken immediately for the relief of the sufferings of the population of Crete. Their Highnesses state that Dr. Savas, an eminent physician practising here, and M. Costaki Atheodosidi, one of the employés of the Foreign Department, will set out for Crete to-morrow, and form with Server Effendi a Commission to ascertain the wants of the suffering people, and give them speedy relief. Dr. Savas and M. Atheodosidi will, I am informed, take with them a supply of money, as well as of linen and other necessaries.

The Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs have further declared to me that should any of the Cretans desire to quit the island, the Porte will be ready to afford them means of conveyance to any part of the Sultan's dominions.

I have urged upon the Ottoman Ministers the necessity of taking care that the measures of the Commissioners be prompt, and really practical and effectual; and I have to instruct you to make reports to me upon those measures, and to be very particular in ascertaining and stating the practical results of them.

A communication has been made to the Greek Patriarch from the Porte, to the effect that the Sultan has signified his pleasure that the Monastery of Arkadi shall be repaired immediately at His Imperial Majesty's own expense.

I am, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 48.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 18.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, March* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg," reporting that the Archbishop of Moscow and certain persons of that capital having forwarded the sums of 8,500 roubles and of 500 roubles to St. Petersburgh, for the use of the Candiote refugees in Greece, the Emperor has caused his acknowledgments and approval to be conveyed to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 48.

Extract from the "Journal de Pétersbourg" of $\frac{\text{February 19}}{\text{March 3}}$, 1867.

MONSIGNOR PHILARETE, Métroplitain de Moscou et de Kolomna, a, dit la "Gazette de Moscou," envoyé au Procureur-Général du Saint Synode, pour être expédiés à destination, 8,500 roubles, provenant de donations faites, sur l'invitation de son Eminence, par le clergé de Moscou et d'autres personnes charitables, au profit des familles Candiotes réfugiés, et 500 roubles données dans le même but par les bourgeois notables Persianinow et Sorokooumovsky, exécuteurs testamentaires de M. le bourgeois notable C. Rykalow. Sur le rapport qui lui en a été fait par M. le Procureur-Général du Saint Synode, Sa Majesté l'Empereur a daigné faire exprimer ses remerciments pour ces donations à M. le Métropolitain de Moscou et faire marquer sa bienveillance souveraine à MM. les bourgeois notables Persianinow et Sorokooumovsky.

Le journal "l'Orient" annonce qu'une souscription au profit des réfugiés Crétois a été ouverte à Saratow.

(Translation.)

MONSIGNOR PHILARETE, Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomna, has, says the "Gazette de Moscow," sent to the Attorney-General of the Holy Synod, to be forwarded to their destination, 8,500 roubles, the proceeds of donations made, at the invitation of His Eminence, by the clergy of Moscow and other charitable persons, for the benefit of the Candian refugee families, and 500 roubles given for the same object by the leading citizens Persianinow and Sorokooumovsky, the testamentary executors of the citizen C. Rykalow. On the Report which was made to him of this by the Attorney-General of the Holy Synod, His Majesty the Emperor condescended to cause his thanks for these donations to be expressed to the Metropolitan of Moscow, and his Royal goodwill towards the citizens Persianinow and Sorokooumovsky to be intimated to them.

The newspaper "l'Orient" announces that a subscription for the benefit of the Cretan refugees has been opened at Saratow.

No. 49.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 22.)

My Lord *Athens, March 13, 1867.*

LATE last night Mr. Consul Neale reported to me the arrival at the Piræus of the Greek blockade-runner "Arkadi" with 300 Cretan women and children, taken on board at Loutro, in Sfakia. On her way back she touched at Syra, and brought to the Piræus the second son of Garibaldi, who is going to Crete with a number of Italian volunteers. On entering the port she hoisted the Italian flag and saluted it, amidst ringing of church bells and great excitement on shore.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from Mr. Consul Lloyd respecting the "Arkadi's" present voyage.

Mr. Neale informs me that the Sfakiotes expected to be attacked from the sea yesterday and were assembling for their defence.

I have not heard this week from Mr. Consul Dickson, but from other sources I learn that no event of any importance had occurred in Crete since his last despatch of the 25th ultimo.

Some documents (of which translations are inclosed herewith), forwarded by Mr. Stillman, the American Consul in Crete, would appear to establish the fact that great pressure has been used by the Turkish authorities to compel the delegates selected by Mustapha Pasha to proceed to Constantinople; and likewise confirm the statement of the British Vice-Consul at Retimo, that the Ottoman troops have recently been committing great excesses in that province.

Mr. Stillman writes to his friends here, that there is less prospect than ever of the insurrection being quelled; and no better proof can be advanced that the people are determined to continue the struggle, than the fact that the "Arkadi," in her two last trips, has found no difficulty in taking on board many hundreds of women and children desirous of escaping from the ill-treatment they would experience were they to fall into the hands of the Turkish troops.

Under such circumstances it is a mere mockery to suppose that the Christians would, as has been suggested by the Porte, voluntarily embark in Turkish vessels for the purpose of being conveyed to some other portion of the Turkish dominions until the close of the civil war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE,

P.S. *March* 14.—Since this despatch was written, a Turkish corvette has anchored off the mouth of the Piræus harbour, apparently to watch the movements of the "Arkadi." This morning, however, she got up steam and went away, professedly for Suda Bay.

E. M. E.

Inclosure 1 in No. 49.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, March 12, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Greek steamer "Arkadi," Captain Orloff, left Syra on Saturday the 9th instant, about noon, with clothes, ammunition, and provisions, and fifteen volunteers, direct for the coast of the district of Agios Vassilios, and arrived there on Sunday the 10th at 4 P.M., but seeing Turkish steamers at anchor there, she put back for Sfakia, where she arrived at about 8 P.M., and landed all except 180 bags of bread, flour, and salt, and took from thence 315 souls, of which fifteen were volunteers, and the rest women and children. The captain reports seeing many families all along the coast waiting for European vessels to come and take them off; that at 10 P.M., while discharging, the watch set by him on the heights reported that Turkish vessels were in sight; that he then slipped his anchor and put to sea; that it was foggy at the time, and seeing nothing, he returned and finished his operations at 2 A.M. the next morning, Monday the 11th, except the 180 bags mentioned, but which he would also have discharged had he not been again warned of Turkish vessels being near. The "Arkadi" returned to Syra by the west of Crete, the same way she went, and arrived here at about 11 P.M. yesterday, the 11th; a child a few months old having died on the voyage, being apparently overlaid by the mother, who was worn out with fatigue.

Yesterday morning, Ricciotti, the second son of Garibaldi, with twenty-three Italian officers, arrived here in a Greek vessel from Leghorn. The Cretan Committee here went on board and accompanied him ashore, and many boats put off full of people who cheered him. The Cretan Committee, with music, took him to the Casino, where he received the visit of the merchants, the music playing Garibaldi's hymn. Thence Ricciotti went to the Hotel de Paris, where, about 5 P.M., he received the visit of the Italian Consular Agent, the people in the square cheering vociferously.

The Cretan Committee intended offering him a banquet, but the "Arkadi" having left Syra this morning, with all the families brought from Crete, for Piræus, Ricciotti has gone there in the "Arkadi," the Italian flag flying at the fore.

To-day at about 1 P.M., the Turkish two-funnel paddle-boat "Ismail," Mehmet Bey, captain, arrived here from Candia. The captain, who went himself to the Health Office to make the usual declaration, said that he came here for water; the Turkish Consul accompanied him on board.

3½ P.M.—Another Turkish two-funnel screw-boat has just arrived, coming from the south.

This morning I received a visit from the Ottoman Consul, who told me he understood that the whole of the cargo landed by the "Arkadi" on her first voyage, at Spiglia of Sfakia, had been taken by the Turks, who, coming there shortly after the "Arkadi's" departure, fired a few guns to disperse the natives, and then went ashore and took possession of the cargo, and that the same thing had now occurred again on this, the "Arkadi's" second voyage. This news, he said, he had from the returned volunteers and families brought here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 49.

Mr. Siaridakis to Mr. Stillman.

(Free translation.)

Sir, *Rettimo, February* $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

INCLOSED is a list of the delegates from the district of Heraclium; they were embarked on board an Ottoman steamer with Sali Pasha, who had elected them with the co-operation of some few citizens under his directions: they arrived on the $\frac{14}{26}$th instant outside our harbour.

Two of those persons, George Karantinos and George Kapnistos, succeeded, after great difficulty, in landing, and took refuge at the office of the British Consular Agent, whither they invited me and M. G. Sculudi, the Russian Consular Agent, and deposed before us and the captain and officers of the Italian corvette that the election had not been made by the provinces, but by a few citizens, enticed and forced into the Governor's office, in consequence of the peremptory orders and commands of the authorities, and that they are leaving for Constantinople, being forced to do so against their own free will, and that it was only after a strong resistance that some by threats, some by bribes, were forced to come; having however, as they said, previously lodged a protest in the hands of the Consular Agents at Heraclium.

Amongst them, as delegate, is also a Government employé, as well as Emmanuel Stavroulakis, of the province of Amari, of the district of Retimo. From the inclosed statement you will see in what way his election was managed.

At the same time they deposed that the Bishop of Crete previously requested them to sign a letter of thanks addressed to his Excellency Mustapha Pasha, which he had drawn up and prepared. This they, as well as certain other parties, refused to sign; meanwhile recapitulating the abuses of which they had been witnesses, and the depredations committed in the island by the Turks and the Ottoman troops in their presence. Priests had also been summoned, who were compelled to sign.

The provinces of Retimo, though several times ordered by the local authorities to elect delegates, did not comply. On the landing here of the Kaïmakam Sali Pasha, he issued an order and summoned a few citizens together, whom he urged to elect the delegates, but they refused on the plea that they were so few in number that they were incompetent to do so.

The continuous abuses and disasters inflicted by the Turks and by the regular and irregular Ottoman troops in these provinces has reached its climax, therefore the destitute women and children of the province of Amarion have, in consequence, drawn up an address, copy of which is herewith inclosed.

On the $\frac{12}{24}$th instant a slight engagement occurred at the village Apodouli, of the province Amarion, of which we do not know the result. Now we learn that a battle is being fought in that neighbourhood between the Ottoman regulars and irregulars from Heraclium, encamped in the village of Dibaki, and the volunteers at Amarion and the Christians assembled thereabouts.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. SIARIDAKIS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 49.

Protest.

(Free translation.)
To the Consular Agents of the town of Retimo.

WITH great grief we heard this day that Reshid Pasha has sent from the village called Apodoulo, where he resides, an Albanian named Arani, to the villages of Vizari and Fourfoura, and that he had succeeded by his persistance in getting returned as delegate from our province and from the village of Vizari, without our knowledge, a certain Emmanuel Stavroulakis.

We all, men, women, and children of this province, therefore protest, and do not recognize this said person as delegate from our province, neither can we tolerate such things to take place in our province, being contrary to our sacred views.

We consequently beg the powerful protection of the protecting Powers, and remain, &c.

All the men, women, and children of the province of Amarion in general, and if signatures be required we send you above ten thousand.

To the Consuls. *February* $\frac{10}{22}$, 1867.

With respect, we the undersigned, all the women and children of the Province of Amarion, beg to lay before you our griefs.

After the destruction of Arkadi, the Province of Amarion, like the other provinces, made its submission. Shortly after our men were requested to give up their arms, which they did, giving all the arms in their possession. A few days after Sambri Pasha sent from Kioseliana, and also demanded arms, &c. Finally, about ten days ago, the enemy came stealthily in our province, and committed many abuses of such a nature that we are ashamed to describe them to you. Now he has again returned more furious and imperative, and with insults and threats and many other violent measures demands arms and ammunition; and all the old men, women, and children he finds in the villages suffer greatly; the young men able to bear arms not having remained.

We hasten therefore again and again to warmly beg you in God's name to do what you can, as it is impossible for us to endure any longer; and for God's sake aid us! Though short be our statement you will have comprehended how much we mean; death is by far more acceptable to us than our present condition.

We salute you and remain, &c.

(The destitute women and children of the province of Amarion.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 49.

The Inhabitants of Amarion to the Governor of Rettimo.

(Traduction.)

Au Gouvernement et Mouhaviz de la ville Réthymne, Sandic Effendi.

Couvent des Assomates, le 17 *Février*, 1867.

NOUS n'avons reçu qu'aujourd'hui votre lettre du 9 courant, dont nous avons tous bien compris le contenu. Mais nous avons nous aussi des observations à vous faire en réponse à ce que vous nous dites, puisque vous nous assurez dans votre lettre que le Sultan ne veut pas de méchantes actions. Aucun homme raisonnable ne désire certainement les abus que les troupes régulières et irrégulières ont commis dans notre district et que vous apprit ensuite.

D'abord les troupes régulières en arrivant dans les villages Caloyéro et Thronos ont brûlé l'église du village Thronos, renversé la sainte table et déchiré les saintes images; de plus elles ont enlevé des maisons des particuliers tout ce qu'elles y ont trouvé. De même les troupes irrégulières en arrivant dans les villages Bistayi, Monastirion, Opsiya, et Néon

Amari ont enlevé du village de Bistayi tout le menu bétail qu'elles ont trouvé, et dans les autres ont commis toutes sortes d'exactions, elles ont pris les huiles, les mulets, les marmites, ont dépouillé des hommes de leurs vêtements et de leur chaussure, et enfin ont commis tous les crimes que leur insatiable avidité leur a dictés. Dans les villages Merona et Yéracari et dans les succursales du couvent ils ont profané les sept temples, déchiré les saintes images, et renversé les saints autels ; ils ont tué six vieillards innocents Chrétiens qui avaient résisté pour empêcher leur femmes d'être déshonorées. Nous rougissons de rapporter leurs crimes, car la terre en frémit et l'air en est souillé. Nos plaintes ne sauraient se formuler.

Comment donc nous dis-tu de rester tranquilles chez nous et de voir les troupes d'Héraclion commettre de tels atrocités dans les villages de l'Ambedia ? Nous protestons devant Dieu et le monde civilisé, et nous le disons que nous aussi nous resterons tous sous les armes, ainsi que nos autres compatriotes, jusqu'à ce que nous ayons obtenu ce que notre Assemblée-Générale, nos représentants légitimes, ont décrété il y a quelques mois, c'est-à-dire, l'union avec la Grèce notre mère patrie ; autrement nous préférons mourir.

Nous te disons encore que nous ne reconnaissons nullement Manoli Stavronlaki, du village Vizari, que le Caïmacam d'Heraclion a choisi comme représentant pour aller à Constantinople, le considérant comme incapable et ne voyant en lui qu'un berger de notre district.

(Le peuple du district d'Amarion.)

Au respectable Consulat de à Héraclion.

M. le Vice-Consul,

Les humbles soussignés, primats et capitaines des districts . . . . . nous nous empressons d'exposer à votre Excellence que le Gouvernement Ottoman du Sultan, ou pour mieux dire, le Sultan lui-même, n'ayant pu depuis déjà six mois, par des mesures sanguinaires de tout genre et par des guerres désastreuses, apaiser l'insurrection de cette île, après avoir incendié tous les districts et tous les villages que ses troupes ont traversés, après avoir proclamé par mille faux rapports à toute l'Europe que l'insurrection de Crète était étouffée et que la tranquillité était rétablie dans toute l'île, voulant par ce moyen tromper toutes les Grandes Puissances Européens et protectrices, après avoir fait usage de tous les moyens illicites pour étouffer l'insurrection et ne l'ayant pas pu, vient, à ce que nous voyons, de publier, contre tout espoir, un firman par lequel il invite deux personnes de chaque district qui seront élues par les habitants et qui seront envoyées comme représentants à Constantinople pour décider avec la Commission y établie la manière dont cette île sera gouvernée à l'avenir.

Connaissant ce que les promesses du Sultan ont de trompeur, qu'elles font espérer de grandes choses quand le danger existe et qu'elles s'évanouissent dès qu'il a disparu, nous restons inébranlables dans ce que nous avons décidé par notre Assemblée Générale au mois de Juin dernier et par le Comité de notre district, demandant que, par l'intervention des augustes Gouvernements Chrétiens de l'Europe et de leurs alliés, nous soyons unis avec notre mère patrie de la Grèce libre sous le sceptre de Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes, Georges I. Nos droits étant imprescriptibles, nous n'avons point accepté et nous n'accepterons jamais de traiter isolément avec la Porte. L'administration nommée par le Sultan ici considérant cette perfide machination de son Gouvernement échouée, et que par ce moyen elle ne peut réussir à rien, a employé de nouveau, suivant son habitude, la ruse et la violence et a forcé quelques habitants des villages les plus centraux des districts supérieurs, par les menaces des troupes qui s'y trouvent, à nommer comme représentants les nommés . . . .

Comme ses hommes n'ont pas accepté le mandat qui leur était donné et ont refusé de se rendre à Héraclion comme n'ayant pas été légalement élus par le peuple, l'administration locale à Héraclion envoie des agents de police et par des menaces et des sévices à coup de bâton force les individus ci-dessus désignés par l'autorité locale elle-même comme représentants à se rendre à Héraclion, persistant vouloir à les envoyer de là à Constantinople, après les avoir munis d'actes de nomination portant de fausses signatures de divers habitants des districts.

Les Soussignés considérant cet acte du Gouvernement du Sultan comme illégal et entaché de violence, nous protestons contre cette prétendue élection et renions ces représentants, ne pouvant reconnaître aucun de leurs actes, et nous ne reconnaîtrons pas non plus comme légitimes les conséquences quelconques que pourrait avoir leur voyage à Constantinople, persistant, ainsi que nous le disons plus haut, dans les décisions précédemment prises par notre Assemblée Générale légalement élue et par le Comité de notre

province, c'est-à-dire, dans la résolution de nous unir à notre mère patrie la Grèce libre. Pour que les augustes Gouvernements Chrétiens des Grandes Puissances de l'Europe soient convaincus, qu'ils veuillent bien envoyer des Commissaires et faire voter librement le peuple de la Crète et nous sommes prêts à accepter les résultats de ce vote.

Nous vous prions, M. le Consul, de transmettre prochainement copie de la présente protestation à l'auguste Gouvernement que vous représentez si dignement, afin qu'il comprenne la vérité et qu'il se tienne en garde contre la ruse et la perfidie du Gouvernement Ottoman.

Nous signons avec la plus profonde respect.

(Suivent 1,353 signatures.)

(Translation.)

To the Government and Mouhaviz of the town of Retimo, Sandic Effendi.

Convent of the Assomates, February 7, 1867.

WE only received to-day your letter of the 9th instant, the contents of which we all well comprehended. But we too have some remarks to make to you in reply to what you say, since you assure us in your letter that the Sultan wishes for no cruel acts. Assuredly no reasonable man wishes for the outrage which the regular and irregular troops had committed in our district, and which we detailed below.

First, the regular troops on entering the villages of Caloyero and Thronos, burned the church of Thronos, overturned the holy table, and disfigured the images of the Saints; more than that, they carried off from private houses everything they found there. In the same way the irregular troops, on arriving at the villages of Bistayi, Monastirion, Opsiya, and Neon Amari, carried off from Bistayi all the small cattle they found; and in the other villages they made all sorts of extortions, seized the oil, the mules, the saucepans, robbed men of their clothes and boots, in a word, committed every crime which their insatiable rapacity dictated to them. In the villages of Merona and Yeracari, and in the chapels of the convent, they profaned the seven temples, disfigured the holy images, and overthrew the sacred altars; they slew six innocent old Christian men who had resisted, and tried to prevent their wives being dishonoured. We blush to record their crimes, for the earth trembles at them, and the air is defiled. We should be unable to word our complaints.

How, then, can you tell us to stay quiet at home, and see the troops of Heraclium commit such atrocities in the villages of Ambedia? We protest before God and the civilized world, and we declare that we also, as well as our countrymen, will all remain under arms until we shall have obtained what our General Assembly, our lawful Representatives, decided a few months ago, that is, our union with Greece our mother-country; else we prefer to die.

We tell you still that we in no way recognize Manoli Stavroulaki, of the village of Vizari, whom the Kaimakam of Heraclium has chosen as our Representative to go to Constantinople, considering him as incapable, and seeing in him only a shepherd of our district.

(The people of the district of Amarion.)

To the respected Consulate of at Héraclion.

Mr. Vice-Consul,

WE, the humble Undersigned, the Primates and Captains of the districts of hasten to point out to your Excellency that the Ottoman Government of the Sultan, or, we should rather say, the Sultan himself, having for six months been unable by every kind of sanguinary measure and by disastrous wars to quiet the insurrection of this island; after having fired every district and every village through which his troops have passed; after having proclaimed to the whole of Europe by a thousand false reports that the Cretan insurrection was stifled, and that tranquillity was restored throughout the island, wishing by these means to deceive the great protecting Powers of Europe; after having made use of every illicit method to smother the insurrection, and having been unable to do so, has, as we see, just published, contrary to all hope, a firman by which he invites two persons of each district, who are to be elected by the inhabitants and sent as their representatives to Constantinople, to decide, with the Commission there established, on the way in which this island shall for the future be governed.

Knowing how deceitful the Sultan's promises are, and that they give hopes of great things whilst danger exists, and vanish as soon as it is past, we remain firm in what we decided last June, through our General Assembly, and through the Committee of our district, demanding that, by the intervention of the august Christian Governments of

Europe and of their allies, we be united with our mother country, free Greece, under the sceptre of His Majesty George I, King of the Hellenes. Our rights being imprescriptible, we have not consented, and never shall consent, to treat separately with the Porte. The Administration appointed here by the Sultan, considering that this perfidious machination of their Government has failed, and that they cannot by these means attain anything, have again, as is their wont, employed treachery and violence, and have forced some inhabitants of the most central villages of the higher districts, through the threats of the troops stationed there, to name as representatives the following persons . . . .

As these men did not accept the mission offered to them, and refused to proceed to Heraclium on account of not having been legally elected by the people, the local administration at Heraclium now send police officers, and by threats, ill-treatment, and blows, force the above individuals, appointed by the local authorities themselves as representatives, to proceed to Heraclium, and persist in sending them from thence to Constantinople after having furnished them with letters of nomination bearing the forged signatures of various inhabitants of he districts.

We, the Undersigned, looking upon this act of the Sultan's Government as illegal and tainted with violence, protest against this pretended election, and disown these representatives, being unable to recognize any one of their acts, neither shall we recognize as legitimate any of the consequences which their journey to Constantinople may entail; persevering, as we have said above, in the decision previously arrived at by our legally elected General Assembly, and by the Committee of our province, that is, in the resolve to unite ourselves to our free mother country, Greece. In order that the august Christian Governments of the Great European Powers may be convinced, let them kindly send Commissioners, and cause the Cretan people to vote freely, and we are ready to accept the results of that vote.

We pray you, Mr. Consul, to send at an early date a copy of this protest to the august Government which you so worthily represent, so that it may understand the truth, and stand on its guard against the cunning perfidy of the Ottoman Government.

We sign with the highest respect.

(Follow 1,353 signatures.)

No. 50.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 22.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March* 13, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a report of a conversation which has taken place in the Greek Chamber in regard to the recent publication of official documents in France and England respecting the Cretan insurrection.

M. Tricoupi communicated to the Chamber copies of the despatches which he has addressed to the Greek Minister at Paris and London on this subject, and in which he endeavours to show that the present Government is no less anxious than the late one to afford as much encouragement and aid to the insurgents as is compatible with the maintenance of peace with Turkey.

On the day after this discussion took place, I called on M. Tricoupi and asked him to point out to me in what respect I had misunderstood or misreported his observations, and he then expressed himself in much the same terms as those which he had employed in the Chamber. I replied that I had not, as yet, had an opportunity of reading over my despatch to your Lordship of the 3rd of January last which contains the passage to which M. Tricoupi has taken exception, but that I had a sufficiently distinct recollection of what he had said at the interview in question to feel sure that the tendency of his remarks was rather to decline discussing with me the particular act which had attracted the attention of Her Majesty's Government and with the circumstances of which he was imperfectly acquainted than to cast any blame upon the Cabinet of M. Bulgaris for their conduct in this matter.

On referring to the passage in question, I find that I make M. Tricoupi say "that he could not deny that they might constitute a sufficient ground of quarrel on the part of the Porte," but I qualified this statement by saying that M. Tricoupi professed to be too imperfectly acquainted with the particulars of the occurrence complained of to pronounce an opinion upon the subject.

But, on referring to my despatch of the 1st of February last, it is obvious that I can have had no intention of representing the present Government as less favourable to the insurrectionary cause than the late one, and I am disposed to think that M. Tricoupi has confounded our two conversations, and that he is under the impression that he held to

me, on the 3rd of January, the language which he really did hold on a subsequent occasion, namely, on the 1st of February.

I, however, told M. Tricoupi that this was a detail to which I attached less importance than to the fact that he had pledged the Government to do their utmost to prevent any invasion of Turkey on the side of Thessaly and Epirus. Whilst admitting that he had made to me a declaration of this sort (and I may add that he has done so also to the French, Russian, and Turkish Ministers), he added, that he must qualify the promise by the explanation that the Greek Government were bound to do their utmost to prevent arms and armed bands from being sent into Thessaly and Epirus, because those provinces have not yet been declared in a state of open insurrection, as is the case in Crete, which has for some time past been blockaded, and is recognized by the Hellenic Government as a belligerent. But that in the event of Thessaly and Epirus rising in arms they would be compelled to recognize them also as belligerents, and place them on the same footing as Crete.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Speech by M. Tricoupi in the Greek Chamber of Deputies.

Messieurs,

JE ne serais point monté à la tribune, si l'honorable préopinant n'avait exprimé une idée que je ne puis laisser passer sans la relever, s'il n'avait parlé de correspondances communiquées à d'autres Parlements.

Cette idée en elle-même n'est pas sans importance, mais quand on la rattache aux bruits, aux calomnies répandues et aux accusations dirigées par les journaux contre le Gouvernement et contre moi en particulier, elle acquiert une portée qui ne me permet point de me taire.

Et d'abord je dois poser un principe qui est la base de toute discussion sur les affaires extérieurs, c'est que le Parlement Grec ne doit juger les Ministres de la Grèce que par leurs propres écrits.

Je n'accepte pas que vous me jugiez, parce qu'un autre aura exprimé mes idées d'une manière que je puis approuver ou désapprouver.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce a des idées Grecques. Ces idées, c'est lui qui les exprimera. Vous ne sauriez jamais croire que les idées Grecques réfléchies sur un miroir étranger, passant par un canal étranger, puissent se présenter avec la pureté qu'elles ont dans la bouche du Ministre Grec.

Messieurs! de même que dans les Parlements d'Angleterre et de France on a communiqué des correspondances concernant les affaires de Crète, de même il en sera communiqué au Parlement Grec, mais seulement lorsque cela sera considéré comme avantageux. En attendant je ne veux point venir à une discussion à cet égard.

Mais il y a, Messieurs, des choses sur lesquelles on ne peut se taire. Il y a l'offense faite au Gouvernement, et en particulier à moi, dans le Parlement et en dehors, par les quelques mots de M. Pétiméza, une offense toute personnelle. On a dit qu'un Ministre Grec a voulu se recommander auprès de Gouvernement étrangers par des attaques contre un Gouvernement précédent. Je ne puis souffrir une pareille allégation, car devant les étrangers il n'y a point de Ministères différents, mais un Gouvernement Grec. (Applaudissements.) Nous avons, Messieurs, des idées différentes sur des questions intérieures: quelques uns pensent que par le système des économies l'Etat pourra se relever, d'autres pensent qu'il faut d'autres moyens: ils veulent avec les économies. de nouveaux impôts et des emprunts. Et je me félicite de ce que nous qui avons la dernière idée, nous sommes d'accord sur ce point avec l'un des Membres les plus importants de l'Opposition. Mais quels que soient nos différends sur les questions intérieures, rien ne nous divise en présence des étrangers. C'est pourquoi j'ai été très satisfait en entendant dire à cette tribune que par la concorde et l'amour mutuel nous sortirons de la position difficile où nous nous trouvons. Nous aussi nous devons répondre à cette expression de l'honorable Député. Et je crois que j'y répondrai mieux en montrant un document qu'il est nécessaire que je vous communique, car il prouve cette vérité, que les Ministres Grecs ne doivent pas être jugés par l'idée qu'en ont les étrangers, mais par leurs propres écrits.

Messieurs! Qu'est-ce qui a donné prétexte ces jours-ci aux bruits répandus dans la ville d'Athènes? Ce sont deux ou trois pièces du livre bleu d'Angleterre et une pièce du livre jaune de France. Quelques personnes ont voulu conclure de ces pièces que le Gouvernement Grec a commis un acte funeste, en d'autres termes qu'il a essayé de se représenter comme suivant une politique opposée à celle du Gouvernement précédent, et cela pour se recommander auprès des étrangers.

La pièce qui a provoqué ces fausses interprétations a été connue ici dernièrement, après avoir été publiée dans le livre jaune. Mais le Ministre en a eu connaissance immédiatement après que le Ministre de France l'a reçue, car elle m'a été communiquée en particulier. Hé bien! voici, Messieurs, ce que j'ai répondu immédiatement à cet égard au Ministre de Grèce à Paris, concernant cette pièce, à la date du 24 Janvier, c'est-à-dire, il y a un mois:—

[For the despatch of M. Tricoupi to M. Déliyanni, $\frac{\text{January 24}}{\text{February 5}}$, 1867, see No. 37.]

Messieurs! Je pourrais vous lire beaucoup d'autres pièces, mais je pense que je ne dois pas sortir de la seule question où j'ai dit que je bornerais aujourd'hui mon discours. Quand le moment viendra de discuter sur la politique du Gouvernement, alors je vous en parlerai. Aujourd'hui je ne veux pas toucher ce sujet.

Ne croyez pas que la pièce que je vous ai lue soit la première sur cette question. Dans les instructions secrètes aux Ministres je m'étais occupé de cet objet, car j'avais remarqué une étrange disposition des étrangers à vouloir répéter cette idée de la différence entre la politique des deux Gouvernements et à lui donner de la force. C'est pourquoi dans les premières instructions nous avons expliqué notre opinion particulière à cet égard, opinion qui est celle que je vous ai rapportée. Le passage suivant d'un des rapports de notre Ministre à Paris sur sa première entrevue avec M. de Moustier, prouve qu'il s'est acquitté de notre recommandation:—

"J'ai répondu que le nouveau Gouvernement, suivant sur cette question absolument la même politique que suivait le Gouvernement de M. Bulgari, se trouvait dans les mêmes conditions que lui, se croyant heureux s'il pouvait contribuer, non à compliquer, mais à rendre évidente au Gouvernement Impérial la situation des affaires de Crète."

Mais, Messieurs, ce n'était pas seulement le livre jaune qui renfermait des expressions inexactes. Le livre bleu en renfermait aussi. Dans le livre bleu il existe une lettre de Mr. Erskine par laquelle l'honorable Ministre d'Angleterre rend compte à son Gouvernement d'une conversation qu'il a eue avec moi. Cettre lettre n'est parvenue à ma connaissance que lorsque je l'ai lue dans le livre bleu. Immédiatement je me suis empressé, par une lettre au Ministre de Grèce à Londres, d'envoyer les instructions nécessaires. Mais j'ai eu une autre occasion d'écrire, même avant la publication du livre bleu, au Ministre de Grèce concernant cet objet. Voici cette lettre, qui porte la date du 20 Janvier:—

[For the despatch from M. Tricoupi to M. Braïlas-Arméni, $\frac{\text{January 20}}{\text{February 1}}$, 1867, see No. 36.]

Je vous ai lu, Messieurs, ce document pour vous montrer que le nouveau Ministère, toutes les fois que la conduite du Gouvernement précédent est attaquée par des étrangers, prend toujours sa défense d'autant plus que ce Gouvernement a pour appui réel sa propre conduite, car, Messieurs, je dois l'avouer, la conduite du Gouvernement précédent a été telle qu'elle devait l'être.

M. Valassopoulos.—Vous ne faites pas une autre observation (Désapprobation)——

Ch. Tricoupi, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.—Cette pièce, ainsi que je l'ai dit précédemment, est antérieure à la publication du livre bleu.

Quelques uns.—Ne répondez pas.

Ch. Tricoupi.—M. Valassopoulos a été Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, et il sait qu'il n'est pas d'usage dans de telles pièces de traiter de différentes affaires, et que dans chaque pièce il n'est question que d'un seul objet. Je dis de plus à M. Valassopoulos, qu'aucune provocation ne saurait m'entraîner à parler de choses dont la discussion ne saurait aujourd'hui être avantageuse.

Avant de descendre de la tribune je vous lirai une autre pièce qui prouve qu'immédiatement après avoir lu le livre bleu je me suis empressé d'écrire à notre Ministre à Londres, pour qu'il donnât aux pièces que je vous ai lues un caractère plus officiel en en remettant des copies au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères d'Angleterre.

Voici cette pièce. Elle est écrite en Français, mais je vous la lis en la traduisant:—

[For the despatch from M. Tricoupi to M. Braïlas-Arméni, February $\frac{10}{22}$, 1867, see No. 38.]

(Translation.)

Gentlemen,

I SHOULD not have mounted the tribune if the honourable gentleman who spoke last had not expressed an idea which I cannot let pass without taking it up, and if he had not spoken of correspondence communicated to other Parliaments.

This idea in itself is not without importance, but when we add it to the reports, to the calumnies spread abroad, and to the accusations directed by the newspapers against the Government, and against me in particular, it acquires an aspect which will not allow me to remain silent.

And first I must lay down a principle which is the basis of every discussion on foreign affairs, that is, that the Greek Parliament ought to judge the Greek Ministers only from their own writings.

I do not consent to your judging me because another man has expressed my ideas in a way which I may or may not approve of.

The Greek Foreign Minister has Greek ideas. It is he who must express these ideas. You would never believe that Greek ideas reflected by a foreign mirror, and passing through a foreign channel, could present themselves with the purity which they possess in the mouth of the Greek Minister.

Gentlemen! in the same way as correspondence relating to the affairs of Crete has been communicated to the Parliaments of England and France, they will be communicated to the Parliament of Greece, but only when it is considered advantageous. Meanwhile I do not wish to come to a discussion on this head.

But, gentlemen, there are subjects on which it is impossible to be silent. There is an insult offered to the Government, and a personal insult to me individually, in Parliament and out of it, by the few words spoken by M. Pétiméza. It has been said that a Greek Minister wished to ingratiate himself with foreign Governments by attacks on a preceding Government. I cannot tolerate such an assertion; for, in the eyes of foreign Governments, there are no individual Ministers, but a Greek Government. (Applause.) We have, gentlemen, different ideas on internal questions: some think that the State would recruit itself by using the system of economies; others again think we want other measures; they desire with the economies, new taxes and loans. And I congratulate myself on the fact that we, who are of the latter opinion, agree on this point with one of the most influential members of the Opposition. But whatever may be our disagreements on internal questions, nothing disunites us in the presence of foreigners. That is why I was very much pleased at hearing it said on this tribune that, by union and mutual love, we shall extricate ourselves from the difficult position in which we are placed. We too ought to reply to that expression of the honourable Deputy. And I think I shall reply to it better by showing a document which I must necessarily communicate to you, for it proves this truth, that the Greek Ministers ought not to be judged from the ideas which strangers have of them, but from their own writings.

Gentlemen! What was it which recently gave a pretext for the reports noised about the town of Athens? It was two or three despatches from the English Blue Book, and one from the French Yellow Book. Some persons wanted to make out from these despatches that the Greek Government has committed a fatal act, in other words, that it has attempted to represent itself as following a line of policy contrary to that of the preceding Government, and this in order to ingratiate itself abroad.

The despatch which provoked these false interpretations was known here recently, after having been published in the Yellow Book. But the Minister became acquainted with it immediately after the French Minister received it, for it was privately communicated to me. Well! this, gentlemen, is what I immediately replied on this subject to the Greek Minister at Paris, with respect to this despatch, dated January 24, that is, a month ago:—

[For the despatch of M. Tricoupi to M. Délyanni, $\frac{\text{January 24}}{\text{February 5}}$, 1867, see No. 37.]

Gentlemen! I could read you many other passages; but I think that I ought not to go beyond the single question to which I said I should limit my discourse to-day. When the moment arrives for discussing the policy of the Government, then I shall speak to you about it. To-day I shall not touch upon the subject.

Do not think that the despatch I have read to you is the first on this subject. In the secret instructions to Ministers I had occupied myself with this object, for I had observed a strange disposition on the part of foreigners to wish to repeat this idea of the difference between the policy of the two Governments, and to give it force. That is why, in our first instructions, we explained our private opinion on this head, which same opinion I have reported to you. The following passage from one of the reports of our Minister at Paris, on his first interview with M. de Moustier, proves that he complied with our recommendation:—

"I answered that the new Government, following on this question precisely the same line of policy which M. Bulgari's Government followed, was placed in the same situation as his was, thinking itself fortunate if it could contribute, not to complicate, but to make clear to the Imperial Government the state of the affairs of Crete."

But, gentlemen, it was not only the Yellow Book which contained inexact expressions. The Blue Book also contained some. In the Blue Book there is a letter from Mr. Erskine, in which the honourable English Minister gives an account to his Govern-

ment of a conversation which he had with me. That letter only came to my knowledge when I read it in the Blue Book. I immediately, in a letter to the Greek Minister in London, hastened to send the necessary instructions. But I had another opportunity of writing to the Greek Minister respecting this subject, even before the publication of the Blue Book. The following is the letter bearing date the 20th of January :—

[For the despatch of M. Tricoupi to M. Braïlas-Arméni, $\frac{\text{January } 20}{\text{February } 1}$, 1867, see No. 36.]

I read you this document, gentlemen, to show you that the new Minister, every time the conduct of the late Government is attacked by foreigners, always defends it, the more because that Government possesses its own conduct for its real support, for, gentlemen, I must own that the conduct of the late Government was what it ought to have been.

M. Valassopoulos.—You make no other observation (Disapprobation)——

M. Tricoupi..—This despatch, as I said before, was written previously to the publication of the Blue Book.

Several persons.—Do not answer.

M. Tricoupi.—M. Valassopoulos has been Minister for Foreign Affairs, and knows that it is not customary in such documents to treat of different affairs, and that in each despatch only one subject is discussed. I say, besides, to M. Valassopoulos, that no provocation would induce me to speak of matters the discussion of which could not at this moment be advantageous.

Before descending from the tribune I will read one more despatch, which proves that immediately after reading the Blue Book I hastened to instruct our Minister in London to give a more official character to the despatches which I have read you, by transmitting copies of them to the English Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Here is the despatch. It is written in French, but I translate it to you as I read :—

[For the despatch of M. Tricoupi to M. Braïlas-Arméni, February $\frac{10}{22}$, 1867, see No. 38.]

No. 51.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, March* 23, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and communicated to me the substance of a despatch from M. de Moustier.

M. de Moustier says that he is glad to see that Her Majesty's Government agree with that of the Emperor as to the necessity of the Porte keeping the agreements which it entered into with the Great Powers under the Treaties of 1856, and that Her Majesty's Government will not object to act with France on that point. M. de Moustier hoped that the same result may be produced in the case of Crete, as every day lessened the difficulty which Her Majesty's Government felt on the ground of opportunity. Austria, he says, has declared herself ready to join in the French policy as to Crete.

No. 52.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March* 5, 1867.

IN a postscript to my last despatch your Lordship was made acquainted with the re-occupation of Prosnero, in Apokorona district, by the Imperial troops, and the departure of Ali Riza Pasha's army for Kissamos district.

No event of importance has since (to my knowledge) transpired at either of these places, except that Ali Riza Pasha is at Kissamos Castelli, occupied in collecting some of the arms of the insurgents, several horse-loads of which have already been sent into Canea.

A number of Kissamiotes are nevertheless still up in arms against the Government, and are, I believe, at Topolia, in company with a body of foreign volunteers, Colonel Zimbrakaki's included. Thirty of the latter, being all Hellenes, have recently surrendered to the authorities.

The "Arkadi" is reported to have just come from Syra, and to have landed on the coast between Capes Vatalos and Kato-Nisi, about eighty volunteers, some provisions and ammunition. A party of Sfakiotes, on seeing the cargo put on shore, proceeded to scramble for it, and some members of the National Assembly present having laid claim to

the same an affray took place, when two men were killed. Such, at least, is the most authentic local version in reference to the first appearance in these waters of the new Hellenic blockade-runner.

Herewith inclosed is a copy of a letter from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, announcing the departure for Canea of the delegates elected by the inhabitants of Candia Province, for the purpose of taking part in the Commission, agreeably to the Firman brought by Server Effendi; also, that an engagement took place at Malevisi on the 1st instant, with some further sacking and burning of villages, &c.

It may not perhaps be uninteresting to your Lordship to know the districts that have, up to this day, elected their respective delegates.

Candia Province, thirteen Christians, twelve Mohammedans.

Candia town and district, one Christian and one Mohammedan.
Setia, ditto ditto.
Yerapetra, ditto ditto.
Mirabello, two Christians, one Mohammedan.
Pediada, two Mohammedans.
Rhizes, one Christian, one Mohammedan.
Monofatsi, ditto ditto.
Malevisi, two Christians, one Mohammedan.
Piriotissa, one Christian, one Mohammedan.
Lasethe, one Christian.
Kenuria, one Christian, one Mohammedan.

Retimo Province, one Christian.

Amari, one Christian only, so far.

Of the other districts, namely, Retimo Town, St. Vassili, and Mylopotamos, no Christian delegates, I hear it said, are disposed to be elected, and they have protested.

Canea Province, five Christians, five Mohammedans.

Canea city and district, two Christians (with some reluctance) and two Mohammedans.
Kissamos, one Christian (with difficulty), one Mohammedan.
Apokorona, one Christian, another is ill, one Mohammedan.
Selinos, Christian nil, one Mohammedan.
Sfakia, nil, neither Christian nor Turk.

It is said (without my vouching, in any way, for the truth of the assertion) that most of the above Representatives have been chosen against their own will and under pressure from high quarters.

I have the honour to transmit, moreover, a translation of a letter from Mr. Consular Agent G. Calocherino, embodying the substance of a series of protests which, he has learnt, have emanated from various districts in the Province of Retimo.

Pursuant to a manifesto issued by the Epitropi, and dated Kalikrati, 28th ultimo, the Cretan Assembly have formed a Provisional Government to be composed of seven members and a secretary, and in the name of King George the First, of Greece. The President of the Government shall be elected by the members of the same. The Provisional Government will act in concert with the General Assembly, from whom it will receive whatever may be necessary by way of means, supplies, &c. An account of the receipts and expenditure must be rendered monthly. It will bear a seal with the words, "The Provisional Government of Crete," around it, and in the middle, the arms of Greece. Its duties will be, to keep alive and further organize the insurrection; to grant rewards for military service; pensions to the widows and orphans of those that fall in action; to procure the sinews of insurrection; to negotiate for union with the Hellenes; to raise loans, just as is done in Greece; to appoint Ministers Plenipotentiary to foreign parts; to create governors, military commanders, &c.; to establish laws according to the Hellenic code; to make roads, &c,

The members of the Provisional Government will enter upon their duties after having taken the following oath in presence of the General Assembly:—

"I swear by the Holy Trinity to serve faithfully my country, administer justice to all, and strive to bring about the union of Crete with Greece."

The Provisional Government will carry on its duties until the union of the island with Greece shall have been effected, and until the fortresses in Crete shall have been occupied by Hellenic troops.

The above stated regulations and statutes may from time to time be repealed or modified according to the decisions of the Government and subject also to the approval of

the General Assembly of Cretans. Ali Riza Pasha is, I understand, to proceed shortly to Selino, in order to obtain a Christian delegate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, March* 2, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, and to report to you that the delegates elected by the inhabitants of Candia Province to take part in the Commission which is to deliberate on the affairs of this island, left last week accompanied by Salih Bey, the son of the Imperial Commissioner, proceeding to Constantinople through Retimo and Canea. Reschid Pasha, the Kaimakam, returned to town last week, and being a little indisposed, remained some days here, and yesterday proceeded again to Malevisi, where an engagement took place with the insurgents. These came from Amari, in which district they have burnt five Turkish villages, viz., Arthactos, Vathico, Curutes, Platanos, and Agia Paraskevi, proceeding to Malevisi, and after the engagement above-mentioned have been dispersed, and are now supposed to have retired either to Anagia or back to Messarà.

Part of the Turkish troops stationed at Tymbaki returned to the district of Malevisi, and another part remained still at the above-mentioned place. On account of the engagement at Malivisi great agitation existed here yesterday, happily no misfortune has taken place: many of the villages in Malevisi have been pillaged.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo,* $\frac{\text{February } 19}{\text{March } 3}$, 1867.

WITH reference to my letter of the 18th instant, o.s., I inclose copies in substance of certain protests—

1. Being from the Convent of Vusaki, for all the damages done to the same by Ottomans.

2. Protests of the inhabitants, of both sexes, inhabiting the district of Amari, against the forcible election of Manoli Stavroulaki, as delegate.

3. Protest from women of the district of St. Vassili, for outrages and robberies of every description committed by Ottomans, and which are still being perpetrated.

4. Protests from inhabitants of Amari presented to Governor.

The Christians of Retimo Province were under considerable apprehension lest they also should be subjected to the same outrages and horrors as those committed in Amari and St. Vassili. Many of the inhabitants with their families belonging to the latter districts have come to Retimo town, and have obtained shelter at the Consular Agencies. In my own house are upwards of 200 souls. They declared that if sufficient lodging could be procured for them in town they would all come in and remain, or would even leave the island for good with their families if only allowed to do so by the authorities.

The roads are beginning again to become unsafe, murders being rife in various parts of the province. Threats accompanied by blows are frequently dealt on innocent persons. In this town similar acts are not wanting.

The Christian inhabitants of Retimo town finding themselves crowded in narrow quarters and without food are endeavouring to leave the island, yet the authorities prevent their doing so.

The Turks are daily going out of the town armed. They ruin the olive and other trees, such as the carob and valonea, by digging up their roots, &c. They destroy the roofs of houses, the oil presses, &c., driving their cattle loose on cultivated lands, none of the proprietors daring to speak, because they would be sure to be insulted and menaced.

It is said that in compliance with a new regulation any Christian leaving the town can be provided with a permit which will guarantee his safety.

It is also reported that bands of armed Turks are committing many excesses outside the town. This band is called Zurida, and is accompanied by a few Greeks. Two days

ago they murdered two Christians near the village of Karotis, three hours distant from this city. If these crimes are allowed to continue all the Christians of the neighbouring villages will be massacred.

To-day the election of delegates for Retimo is to take place, and any one refusing to give his vote will be made to do so by force, and with the aid of zaptiehs.

It is rumoured that at Candia preparations are being made to send in a letter of thanks to the Sultan for the services rendered by Mustapha Pasha, and may be the same will take place here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 53.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 25.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 16, 1867.

THE Turkish Minister called yesterday morning to consult me as to the course he should pursue with regard to two Turkish cruizers which were anchored off the harbour of the Piræus to watch the "Arkadi."

These vessels, he said, which are the gun-boat "Alexandria" and the fast yacht "Ismail," are acting under the orders of Mustapha Pasha, the Admiral commanding the Turkish squadron in Crete, who had desired them to follow the "Arkadi" wherever she went, in the hope of thus preventing her from again evading the blockade. He did not of course admit to the Greek Government that such was the case, but he had received a message to this effect from the senior officer, through the Secretary of the Turkish Consul in Syra, who had been landed here from one of the vessels.

M. Photiades added that on the previous day M. Tricoupi had called upon him to say that the Cabinet had taken the matter into serious consideration, and it had been decided that a note should be addressed to M. Photiades complaining of this unusual interference with Greek vessels in their own waters, but that owing to the departure of the vessel, which had hitherto been anchored at the entrance of the port, he had for the present refrained from despatching the note. M. Photiades said, however, that as not only had the vessel in question since returned to her station before the Piræus, but had been joined by a second vessel, he was afraid that something disagreeable would occur.

I told M. Photiades that in a matter of such delicacy I could not take upon myself officially to give him any advice; that were I in his position I should acquaint the senior officer with the communication I had received from the Greek Government, and apply home for instructions, but that I should not venture to urge the officer to disregard the order of his Admiral. I did not, however, conceal from M. Photiades that I thought it injudicious on the part of his Government to run the risk of provoking a collision in respect to a point which might admit of question, and I infer from the language held to me by the French Minister, that he is of the same opinion; and the Russian Minister is still more strongly opposed to the course followed by the Turkish cruizers.

Later in the day M. Tricoupi called upon me and made a statement very similar to that of M. Photiades. He said that as the Turkish cruizer had disappeared yesterday for a time, he had deferred sending in his note; but that as the Piræus was now again watched by two Turkish vessels of war, the Government had felt bound to remonstrate against these proceedings, and he read to me the note which had just been forwarded to M. Photiades.

This note was conceived in courteous but peremptory terms. It stated that two Turkish vessels of war had anchored in the harbour of Syra, and sent boats to row round the shipping. That on the following day they had put to sea, and followed a Greek steamer called the "Hydra" to the Piræus, where they had declined to communicate the object of their visit on being questioned by the harbour-master; and that even in the port of the Piræus their boats had patrolled round the "Arkadi." That the Greek Government could not permit Turkish vessels to enforce the blockade of Crete, or to exercise any supervision in Greek waters, and that they were determined to prevent any such attempt, and to throw upon the Ottoman Government the responsibility of whatever consequences might ensue.

I told M. Tricoupi that I had telegraphed to your Lordship and to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople on the subject, and I begged him most earnestly to avoid taking any step calculated to bring on a collision until time had been afforded to ascertain the deliberate intentions of the Porte; but he said that public opinion in this country was so

unanimous in repudiating the course pursued by the Turkish naval authorities that he could not undertake to say what would happen.

This morning I have been informed by Photiades Bey, that after ascertaining yesterday from Count de Gobineau that he also considered it injudicious on the part of the Turkish authorities to attempt to exercise this sort of police in Greek waters, he had sent the Secretary of Legation to the Piræus, and had succeeded in persuading the senior Turkish officer to cruize elsewhere, and he showed me a telegram which he had addressed to Fuad Pasha, which would, he trusted, prevent a repetition of proceedings of such doubtful expediency. He showed me also the answer he had returned to M. Tricoupi's communication, in which he speaks of the visit of the Turkish vessels as unconnected with the blockade of Crete, but asserts the right of the Ottoman Government to send its ships of war into Greek waters in time of peace.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 54.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 25, 1867.

THE Turkish Ambassador placed in my hands this afternoon a copy of a telegram from the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs dated yesterday, stating that neither France nor any other Power had advised the Porte to cede Crete to Greece, and that the Porte would by no means accept any such advice.

The Porte is very desirous that I should contradict the statement which I made some days ago inthe House of Commons to the contrary of what is stated in the telegram; but as my statement was founded on the tenour of the language held by the French Ambassador, I do not think it either necessary or expedient, at all events at present, to say anything more on the subject.

Your Excellency will endeavour to ascertain how the case really stands.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 55.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 16, 1867.

I HAVE received only a few lines from Mr. Consul Dickson by the last mail from Crete, dated the 11th instant, containing no intelligence of importance.

In a letter of the same date from Lieutenant Murray, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Wizard," he says, "I hear also that the Turks in the town of Candia had broken into the Russian Agent's house and plundered some goods belonging to Christians who had taken refuge there. On the 8th instant a Rayah merchant, by name Nicholo Maridaki, came on board and asked for the protection of the British flag, as Mustapha Pasha wished to compel him to go to Constantinople in place of two delegates who had been chosen for the district of Canea, but who had refused to go, and being in the hills were not to be got at. Most of his property and his two sons are at Syra, and he is afraid, if he goes, his property will be destroyed, and his two sons living in danger from the Revolutionary Committee, he had protested against going, but with no success. He also said that other delegates were coming on board for protection.

"I said that his case was hard, but that I conceived Mustapha Pasha had a perfect right to send him on a mission intended for the pacification of the island. That I could not look on him in the light of a political refugee, and therefore could not interfere between the Ottoman Government and its subjects. . . . . I know of no instance in which a delegate elected by the people is going of his own free will. Those that have been elected are all going under protest, and those who have not protested are the creatures of the Government and have not been elected at all. I hear to-day that large sums are offered for a delegate from Sfakia. The man Maridaki has just got the protection of the American Consulate.

"The Egyptian camp at Suda Bay, which has been established since the war began, has been broken up, and the troops have gone to Candia, *en route* for Egypt, along with Ismail Pasha, the Minister of War."

The Italian Consul writes to his Minister here that Mustapha Pasha appears to be much dejected by the turn events are taking, and that the re-establishment of the Turkish rule is more than ever impossible.

The commander of the "Guiscardo," Italian corvette, who had recently been at Retimo, describes the condition of affairs there as truly deplorable. The Christians, it appears, are huddled together in the streets in a state of literal starvation, having been compelled, by the atrocities committed by the Turkish troops, to take refuge in the town. Two corps from Candia and Retimo had been operating against the insurgents, the result of several engagements being that the Turks had been seriously defeated one day and successful the next; but there was not the least approach to anything like a suppression of the civil war.

He speaks very highly of the humane and courageous conduct of Reshid Effendi, the commander of the troops from Candia, who, at serious risk to his own life, and after being wounded by a shot in the leg, succeeded in rescuing five Christians, of whom two were priests, who had been taken with their hands still black with powder, and were about to be massacred by the Bashi-Bazouks.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 56.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, March* 27, 1867.

THE Russian Ambassador communicated to me this morning the substance of a despatch from Prince Gortchakoff which was to the following effect:—

The Porte has been advised of its own accord to abandon the prolongation of the contest in Candia, which is becoming from day to day a source of weakness and disturbance to the Ottoman Empire; whereas the annexation of that island to the Greek kingdom would afford a fresh security for the duration of tranquillity in the East. Russia shares this conviction with other Powers who are friendly to peace. She regrets that up to the present time England has not acceded to this plan. The question is left open for the decisions of which the British Government will, according to the course of events, recognize the opportunity.

Meanwhile Russia maintains her view, in the hope of arriving, in concert with England, at an understanding consistent with the maintenance of tranquillity in the Levant.

I told his Excellency that with regard to the war in Crete, I would, at the risk of repeating what had been already stated, recapitulate in a few words the view which Her Majesty's Government took. We thought that *primâ facie* the Porte had the same right to put down an insurrection in Crete as England had in India, or France in Algeria, or Russia in Poland. We could not complain of the Government of the Sultan for doing that which every Government in the world, including that of the United States, had done, and would do again when the necessity presented itself. Doubtless it would be competent to us, and it would be our duty, to advise the discontinuance of bloodshed, if it were clearly proved that the re-conquest of the island was impossible; but Her Majesty's Government had no information which could justify them in pronouncing that the cause of the Porte in Crete was hopeless, and unless they were convinced that it was so they must let matters take their course. That the advice to cede the island would undoubtedly be rejected, and that, if taken, it would probably lead, and that at no distant date, to a general dismemberment of the Turkish Empire, were also circumstances which could not be omitted from consideration.

No. 57.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 20, 1867.

THE intelligence received by the Porte from Crete, is as usual altogether at variance with that which reaches Constantinople by way of Greece. I have no despatch from Mr. Consul Dickson of a later date than the 23rd ultimo, and I have, in fact, but little means of forming a trustworthy opinion as to the real state of affairs in the island at this moment. I cannot say that I find, in such information as I possess, reason to believe that any advance has been made towards the restoration of peace.

The Ottoman Government appears to be as firm as ever in repudiating the idea of establishing an "autonomous" Government in Crete. It is making, on the one hand, great exertions to infuse vigour into its naval and military operations; and it is, on the other hand, doing its utmost to conciliate the Cretans, and to relieve their wants.

* A similar despatch was addressed to Sir A. Buchanan.

Hussein Pasha, who commanded the Ottoman forces in the campaign against Montenegro in 1862, has been placed at the head of the troops in Crete. He sailed for that island on the 12th instant. The Porte has great confidence in his ability to conduct with success a warfare such as that which exists in Crete, and declares that he is distinguished no less for his humane and merciful disposition than for his military talents.

Doctor Sawas has gone to Crete, with authority to establish hospitals at several points of the island, for the reception of the sufferers by the insurrection. He has further made arrangements for putting up tents and huts to afford shelter to those whose state of health does not render it necessary to take them into hospitals. He is also prepared to furnish food and clothing to those who are in want of them. He took a considerable amount of stores with him, and has been promised that additional supplies shall speedily follow, and that all he needs for the relief of the suffering population shall be furnished without stint. The Commission, of which Doctor Sawas is a member, is also authorized, as I understand, to hire vessels to convey to the neighbouring islands belonging to Turkey or to some other part of the Empire, any widows or orphans who would be benefited by being removed from Crete.

Doctor Sawas, with whom I had a long conversation before his departure, appeared to be an able man, and his plans struck me as being thoroughly practical, and well calculated to relieve the frightful amount of suffering which exists in Crete. I am most positively assured by the Grand Vizier, as well as by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that all his requisitions for supplies will be immediately attended to, and that no effort will be spared by the Government here to promote the success of his humane mission.

It remains to be seen whether the Christians will be willing to take advantage of the succour proffered to them. The bitterness of feeling appears to be so great, and the mistrust of the Turks so deep rooted, that the Christians may be unwilling to place themselves in the hands even of the Christian agents of the Ottoman Government who are sent to relieve their wants.

The Delegates who have been sent from Crete, in pursuance of the invitation conveyed by Server Effendi, arrived here on the 15th instant. They are lodged and entertained at the public expense, and are treated with attention and hospitality by the Ottoman authorities. They had yesterday an audience of the Sultan. There are at present here, as I am informed, eighteen Christian and thirteen Mussulman Delegates. It is stated that six more Christian Delegates are expected. Various stories are told of the manner in which the Christian Delegates were chosen, and of the means which were resorted to to induce or to compel them to come to Constantinople. Into the truth of these stories it is hardly necessary to inquire. It is perfectly evident that in the present state of Crete, an election of Delegates fully and fairly representing the Christian population of the island, and willing to place themselves in the hands of the Turks and come to Constantinople, is simply impossible. I presume that no one will regard the Delegates who have come here as constituting in any true sense a Representative Body, nor do I conceive it to be the intention of the Porte to call upon them to hold formal debates, or to put questions to the vote. A Commission, consisting of the principal Ottoman Ministers, is employed in drawing up a scheme for the future government of Crete. It desires to adapt this scheme to the local peculiarities, and to render it as acceptable as possible to the inhabitants. To facilitate this task it is desirous of consulting native Cretans, and with this view has invited Delegates to Constantinople. Delegates, chosen as those now here, must have been chosen, cannot, of course, possess any great influence with their countrymen; but it may be supposed that they are the best men that can be obtained under present circumstances. They may be able to give some useful information to the Porte; and they may possibly convey to some of their countrymen more just notions of the real sentiments and intentions of the Sultan and his Ministers than now prevail in Crete. More than this cannot be expected,

The Porte is strenuously exerting itself to restore its authority in Crete, and to pacify the island, and seems willing to do all in its power to satisfy the Cretans, short of granting them an autonomous Government, or giving up the Sovereignty of the island. So little has been hitherto accomplished by the Turks in Crete, that it is difficult to feel much confidence in the success of the fresh efforts which are now made.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 58.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March 20, 1867.*

IN his despatch to your Lordship of the 16th instant, Mr. Erskine mentions a telegram which Photiades Bey, the Ottoman Minister at Athens, had addressed on the day before to Fuad Pasha, respecting two Turkish cruisers which had stationed themselves off the Piræus.

On receiving this telegram, Fuad Pasha informed Photiades Bey that he could not but approve of his conduct, and that he begged him to recommend the Ottoman commanders with increased urgency to make every effort to avoid any violation of international maritime laws, in the execution of their instructions to watch the coast of Greece, and prevent any fresh violation of the blockade of Candia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 59.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord, *Athens, March 19, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a note from M. Tricoupi, inclosing copies of the correspondence which he has exchanged with Photiades Bey respecting the alleged attempt of two Turkish cruizers to watch suspected blockade-runners in Greek waters.

I have simply acknowledged the receipt of this note, and informed M. Tricoupi that I would forward a copy of it to your Lordship.

The day before yesterday Photiades Bey received a telegram from Fuad Pasha fully approving of his conduct in this matter, and promising that stringent orders should be given to the commanders of all Turkish cruizers to avoid the slightest infringement of international law; and the substance of this instruction has been communicated to the Hellenic Government. I venture, however, to observe to your Lordship that if future misunderstandings of this sort are to be prevented, it is extremely desirable that the commanders of Turkish cruizers in these waters should receive precise instructions as to the particular point which has given rise to this controversy, as it is not probable that they are sufficiently conversant with the Maritime International Law of Europe to know, for instance, whether a belligerent may anchor in a neutral port for the purpose of preventing any attempt being made from that port to infringe a blockade established by such belligerent.

Mr. Consul Lloyd has reported to me that the people of Syra were so irritated by the presence and behaviour of the Turkish vessels that serious consequences would probably have ensued if they had not left that port; and I understand that young Garibaldi undertook to carry the "Ismail" by boarding, in a few minutes, outside the Piræus harbour, if 100 resolute men would join him for that purpose.

It is alleged by Mr. Lloyd that Mehmed Bey, the officer in command of the "Ismail," told the English engineer of the "Panhellenion," whilst he was at Syra, that the Turkish men-of-war were determined to run the "Arkadi" down wherever they might fall in with her, a sum of 250*l.* sterling being promised to each of the engineers who might have been instrumental in her destruction.

The "Hellas" frigate left the Piræus last night for Poros, as is reported there; but as the Opposition are taunting the Government with not having displayed the requisite energy in protecting the national honour, I should not be surprised to hear that she has gone to Syra for the purpose of cruizing in that neighbourhood to prevent any violation of Greek waters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 59.

M. Tricoupi to Mr. Erskine.

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le $\frac{4}{16}$ Mars, 1867.*

DES bâtiments de guerre Ottomans se livrent, depuis quelques jours, dans les eaux Grecques, à des actes qui constituent une flagrante violation du droit des gens.

La surveillance que ces bâtiments Impériaux ont exercé dans les ports de Syra et du

Pirée, leur intention de transporter sur les côtes de la Grèce le blocus que les forces navales de Turquie n'ont pu rendre effectif en Candie, ressortent clairement des faits relatés dans la note que j'ai adressée hier à M. l'Envoyé de la Sublime Porte, et dont j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre, ci-joint, une copie.

J'avais espéré que Photiades Bey se serait empressé de faire donner des instructions aux commandants des navires impériaux de respecter les droits d'un Etat avec lequel la Sublime Porte est en paix. Notre espoir a été déçu ; M. l'Envoyé de Turquie, par sa note responsive d'hier, et dont j'ai l'honneur d'annexer une copie, sans entrer dans des explications sur les faits précisés dans ma note, déclare que l'attitude des bâtiments Ottomans dans les ports de Syra et du Pirée ne fut point de nature à donner lieu à des griefs de la part des autorités Helléniques.

Il n'a jamais été notre intention de refuser l'hospitalité dans nos ports à la marine de guerre Ottomane ; mais nous avons le droit d'exiger que cette marine se conforme aux règles qui sont la condition de l'hospitalité dont elle profite.

Une conduite différente ne sera point tolérée par le Gouvernement Hellénique ; les droits et la dignité de la Grèce ne le lui permettraient pas.

S'il survient un conflit, nous aurons la consolation de n'avoir rien fait pour le provoquer.

En vous donnant ces renseignements, ainsi qu'à vos collégues MM. les Ministres de France et de Russie, je crois devoir attirer toute votre attention sur la gravité de la situation.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) CH. TRICOUPI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens, March* $\frac{4}{16}$, 1867.

CERTAIN Ottoman vessels-of-war have, for some days, been indulging in Greek waters in acts which constitute a flagrant violation of the law of nations.

The surveillance which these Imperial ships have exercised in the ports of Syra and the Piræus, their intention of transferring to the coasts of Greece the blockade which the Turkish naval forces were unable to render effectual in Candia, are clearly the result of the facts related in the note which I yesterday addressed to the Envoy of the Sublime Porte, and of which I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy.

I had hoped that Photiades Bey would have hastened to cause instructions to be given to the Commanders of the Imperial vessels to respect the rights of a State with which the Sublime Porte was at peace. Our hope was deceived ; the Turkish Envoy in his reply of yesterday, of which I also have the honour to send you a copy, without entering into explanations respecting the facts related in my note, declares that the attitude of the Ottoman vessels in the ports of Syra and the Piræus was not such as to warrant complaints on the part of the Hellenic authorities.

It has never been our intention to refuse hospitality in our ports to the Ottoman squadron, but we have the right to demand that this squadron should conform to the regulations which are the conditions of the hospitality of which it takes advantage.

Any behaviour of a different nature will not be tolerated by the Hellenic Government ; the rights and dignity of Greece would not allow it.

If a struggle should ensue we shall have the consolation of having done nothing to provoke it.

Whilst giving you, as well as your French and Russian colleagues, this information, I think it my duty to call your serious attention to the gravity of the situation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CH. TRICOUPI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 59.

M. Tricoupi to M. Photiades.

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{3}{15}$ *Mars*, 1867.

LE Gouvernement du Roi a été informé que deux navires de la Marine Impériale de Turquie ont mouillé le $\frac{26 \text{ Fevrier}}{12 \text{ Mars}}$ à Syra.

Le lendemain, l'un de ces navires a suivi de près un bâtiment de la Compagnie Hellénique de navigation à vapeur "l'Hydra," depuis sa sortie du port de Syra, et jusqu'à son entrée au port du Pirée. Son Commandant refusa de donner au Commandant du Port les renseignements que celui-ci lui demanda, selon l'usage, sur le but de son voyage.

Après avoir croisé et stationné quelque temps devant le port du Pirée, ce navire est parti, et ce matin deux navires Turcs, apparemment les mêmes, ont jeté l'ancre à l'entrée de ce port. En outre nos autorités viennent de porter à la connaissance du Gouvernement qu'une embarcation du navire Impérial, mouillé dans le port de Syra, a fait, à plusieurs reprises, pendant la nuit, des tournées dans ce port, de manière à indiquer qu'elle y exerçait une inspection. La même chose a été faite aussi par une embarcation Turque dans le port du Pirée.

Je ne saurais croire que les Commandants des navires Impériaux agissent ainsi d'après les ordres du Gouvernement de la Sublime Porte. Aussi, j'aime à espérer qu'il m'aura suffi d'y avoir attiré votre attention, pour que de pareils actes ne soient pas répetés.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique ne peut tolérer qu'une surveillance soit exercée dans les eaux Grecques en vue de suppléer à l'inefficacité du blocus de Candie.

Si la Marine Impériale de Turquie ne se désiste pas d'une action aussi contraire au droit des gens, il en pourrait résulter des conséquences graves, qui nous causeraient un vif chagrin, mais dont la responsabilité retomberait sur elle tout entière.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) CH. TRICOUPI.

(Translation.

M. le Ministre, *Athens, March* $\frac{3}{15}$, 1867.

HIS Majesty's Government has been informed that two vessels belonging to the Imperial Turkish fleet cast anchor on the 28th February, 12th March, at Syra.

Next day one of these ships followed closely a vessel belonging to the Hellenic Steam Navigation Company "Hydra," from the moment of her leaving the port of Syra till she entered the port of the Piræus. Her Commander refused to give the Governor of the Port the information demanded by him according to custom, as to the object of his voyage.

After cruizing and being stationed in front of the port of the Piræus for some time, this vessel left, and this morning two Turkish ships, apparently the same, cast anchor at the mouth of this port. Besides this, our authorities have just informed the Government that a vessel belonging to the Imperial navy, after anchoring in the port of Syra, made several different cruizes in this harbour, in such a way as to indicate that she was making an inspection of it. The same thing was also done in the harbour of the Piræus by a Turkish ship.

It would be impossible for me to believe that the Commanders of the Imperial vessels were acting thus in compliance with orders from the Government of the Sublime Porte. I also confidently hope that my having called your attention to it will suffice to prevent like acts from being repeated.

The Hellenic Government cannot suffer such surveillance to be exercised in Greek waters with a view of atoning for the insufficiency of the blockade of Candia.

If the Imperial Turkish navy does not desist from such a course of action, so contrary to the law of nations, serious results might ensue which would cause us sincere annoyance, but of which the responsibility would fall entirely on herself.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CH. TRICOUPI.

Inclosure 3 in No. 59.

M. Photiades to M. Tricoupi.

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{4}{16}$ *Mars*, 1867.

J'AI reçu l'office que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser, en date d'aujourd'hui, relativement à l'entrée dans les ports de Syra et du Pirée de quelques bâtiments de la Marine Impériale, auxquels on a attribué à tort un but d'inspection.

Je m'empresse de vous informer, en réponse, que l'apparition de ces navires à Syra et au Pirée se rattache à des raisons de service, et que leur attitude dans l'un et l'autre port ne fut point de nature à donner lieu à des griefs de la part des autorités Helléniques.

Ce n'est pas sans surprise que j'ai vu, M. le Ministre, les observations que vous avez cru devoir me faire à l'occasion de cet incident. En effet, les bâtiments de la Marine Impériale, comme ceux de toutes les Puissances qui entretiennent avec le Gouvernement Royale des relations de paix, peuvent, conformément au droit des gens, circuler librement dans les eaux de la Grèce et stationner dans ses ports.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) J. PHOTIADES.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens, March* $\frac{4}{16}$, 1867.

I HAVE received the official communication of to-day's date which you did me the honour to address to me, relative to the entry into the ports of Syra and the Piræus of some vessels of the Imperial navy, to which has been attributed wrongly a tour of inspection.

In reply, I hasten to inform you, M. le Ministre, that the appearance of the vessels at Syra and the Piræus arose from duties of the service, and that their attitude neither in one port nor in the other was of a nature to give occasion for complaints on the part of the Hellenic authorities.

It was not without astonishment, M. le Ministre, that I read the observations you thought it your duty to make to me on the occasion of this incident. The fact is, the vessels of the Imperial navy, like those of all other Powers who are on friendly terms with the Royal Government, may, in conformity with the law of nations, cruize at will in Greek waters, and station themselves in Greek ports.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. PHOTIADES.

No. 60.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March 20, 1867.*

TWENTY-TWO Italian officers and men arrived at Syra about ten days ago, under the command of Ricciotti Garibaldi (the second son of General Garibaldi), who is now here; and a third body of some eighty Garibaldians landed here last week from La Spezia, for the purpose, as was at first alleged, of joining the insurrection in Crete; but after much negotiation with the Central Cretan Committee, it has, I believe, been decided that for the present, at all events, the presence of these men in Crete would do more harm than good; and I am assured that young Garibaldi himself is so little edified by what he has heard of the Cretans that he has no wish to expose himself to the risk of almost certain failure, and is waiting to see whether his services may not be turned to better account elsewhere. In the meantime he is in no want of funds, and has cashed a bill on London for 36,000 francs: he is treated with great distinction, and is being fêted almost daily by the different Revolutionary Committees, the Lawyers' Club, the students, &c.

No. 61.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord, *Paris, March 29, 1867.*

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch of the 25th instant, informing me of the request made by the Turkish Ambassador in London that your Lordship should contradict the statement made by you to the House of Commons, to the effect that the French Government had advised the Porte to cede the Island of Candia to Greece, which statement M. Musurus affirmed to be incorrect, and of your Lordship's refusal to comply with that request, and desiring me to ascertain how the case really stands, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the following is the statement given to me by M. de Moustier in answer to my inquiries.

His Excellency admits having recommended to the Powers who signed the Treaty of Paris to concur in advising the Porte to make the concession in question. The Governments of Austria, Prussia, and Russia had expressed their readiness to do so, and had instructed their several Representatives at Constantinople to act in concert with the French Ambassador. The instructions given to M. Bourrée had been communicated to me. They did not go to the extent of actually proposing the transfer of Candia to Greece, but they recommended the Porte to consult the wishes of the populations of Candia.

Such was the state of the question when M. de Moustier had last spoken to me. Since then he had been apprized by M. Bourrée that the Representatives of the three Northern Powers had signified their readiness to act in concert with him, and he had applied to know whether it was M. de Moustier's wish that the representation to be made by him to the Porte should be collective or separate. He (M. de Moustier) had replied, that as the value of a collective representation would be much impaired in consequence of

Her Majesty's Government having declined to join in it, the recommendation to the Porte should be made by each Representative separately.

M. de Moustier added that he had expressly enjoined M. Bourrée to frame his note in such terms as that the Porte should not be called upon to reject positively the advice contained in it. His notion was that the Porte might reply that it was already occupied in carrying out the wishes of its allies, inasmuch as Delegates had been summoned from Candia to Constantinople whose opinion should be consulted. M. de Moustier intimated to me that he would be satisfied to take act of this declaration, and I presume that this matter will not be pushed further for the present.

M. Bourrée is to keep Lord Lyons informed of the proceedings of himself and his Northern colleagues.

I asked M. de Moustier the nature of the latest accounts which he had received from Crete; and he said that it appeared that hostilities had ceased, neither party being strong enough to take the offensive.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 62.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

y Lord, *Foreign Office, March* 30, 1867.

I RECEIVED this morning your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, respecting the advice given by the French Ambassador to the Porte, to be followed up, as you had reason to suppose, by similar advice on the part of the Representatives of other Powers, that the Sultan should renounce his authority over the Island of Candia.

Your Excellency very properly declined to be a party to any such proceeding; and in reply to your request to be informed whether Her Majesty's Government wished you to act differently, I acquainted you this afternoon by telegraph that you were to abide by the instructions already given to you on the subject.

You will have seen by my despatches to Lord Cowley, of which copies have been communicated to you, that the French Government have been informed more than once that Her Majesty's Government could not be party to any such advice, although if the Porte—of which, however, from your telegram there seems to be no likelihood—should voluntarily withdraw from Crete, Her Majesty's Government would not offer any obstacle to its so doing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 63.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 1, 1867.

I AM glad to find by your despatch of the 20th ultimo that the Porte is fully alive to the importance of giving no ground of complaint to Greece, in regard to any measures of observation to be exercised by Turkish cruizers, with a view to prevent the exportation from Greece of supplies for the insurgents in Candia.

On hearing from Her Majesty's Minister at Athens of the remonstrances made by the Greek Government against the proceedings of Turkish ships of war in Greek waters, I lost no time in apprizing you by telegraph that those remonstrances were well founded, and that the stationing of Turkish ships of war off the Piræus, and the attempt to exercise a maritime police in the port of Syra, were unwarranted by international law.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 64.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 23, 1867.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, I have informed M. Tricoupi that copies of his despatches relating to

the alleged erroneous reports by Count de Gobineau and myself of certain conversations with him will be textually inserted in any further collection of papers respecting the Cretan insurrection which may be presented to Parliament.

M. Tricoupi replied, that in directing M. Brailas to communicate these papers to your Lordship, he had not intended to request that they should be published in England, but that since your Lordship has kindly consented to do so, he could only express his thanks for the courtesy with which the communication had been received.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 65.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 23, 1867.

IN the course of an interview I had yesterday with M. Tricoupi, I mentioned to him the substance of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, upon the subject of the alleged loss of life in the tumult which occurred on the landing at the Pirœus of some volunteers returning from Crete.

M. Tricoupi repeated as a positive fact, that no life was lost on that occasion; he endeavoured to account for the person who was seen by Captain Hillyar to go down in deep water, by saying that it was true that the gravedigger of the Piræus had been struck on the head by a stone and had momentarily sunk, but that even this man had eventually been saved; and that it was highly probable that this was the very person supposed by Captain Hillyar to have been drowned.

I replied that no negative evidence of this kind could in my opinion invalidate the positive testimony given by English and French officers in regard to the loss of at least two lives.

If the Greek Government had been in earnest in this matter, an investigation would have been ordered immediately after the occurrence, and whilst the evidence of a number of foreign officers who were present was still available. But nothing of the sort was done, nor have I been able to learn that any of the persons who took part in the attack on the unfortunate volunteers have been in any way molested for their conduct on that occasion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 66.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 23, 1867.

THE latest accounts published here by the Central Cretan Commission are in the main similar to those furnished to your Lordship on the 16th instant by Mr. Consul Dickson, with the difference that they, of course, speak of the actions at Fré, in Apokorona, and near Popolia, in Kissamos, as being highly favourable to the insurgents, whilst it is clear from Mr. Dickson's report, and from that of Mustapha Pasha, that the insurgents were in both instances driven from their positions. Mr. Dickson, moreover, says that ten wounded Turkish soldiers were brought back to Canea from Kissamos in a small steamer, whereas this number is magnified by the Greeks into forty.

Great stress is laid by the Cretan Commission here upon the barbarous destruction of several Christian villages in the district of Kissamos by the Turkish troops, and the intelligence is unfortunately confirmed by Mr. Dickson. Greek accounts do not as yet mention the death of Captain Kréari, reported by Her Majesty's Consul, which, if true, will be a serious blow to the insurgent cause.

I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation extracted from an Athens' paper, called the "Indépendance Hellénique," of two documents which have all the appearance of being authentic, and prove conclusively that the inhabitants of Crete have been compelled to elect as their delegates the persons designated by the Ottoman authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 67.

Extract from the "Indépendance Hellénique" of March 21, 1867.

VOICI deux documents des plus curieux :—

"Habitants de village de Mélampes,

"Vous vous rappelez sans doute que l'autre jour je vous ai donné lecture d'un firman Impérial qui ordonne que chaque province envoie à Constantinople un délégué, honnête homme. En conséquence aussitôt que vous aurez reçu cet ordre vous élirez sans retard le Sieur Georges Margariti de Mélampes et lui remettrez un acte de procuration (masbata) que vous signerez. Demain envoyez-moi sans faute et le masbata et le sieur Margariti, Je les attendrai quand même ; je n'admettrai aucun mauvais prétexte. Si vous n'obéissez. je ferai de votre village ce que j'ai fait des autres.

"Le Kaïmakam Gouverneur du District d'Héraclion,
(Signé) "RECHIT EFFENDI."

A cet ordre les villageois ont répondu comme suit :—

"Altesse,

"Vous savez que le village de Mélampes n'est pas la province, et que c'est celle-ci tout entière qui devra élire le délégué. Vous le voulez pourtant, et nous vous l'envoyons ; mais il n'est pas en notre pouvoir de vous envoyer le masbata demandé.

"Vos serviteurs,
"Les Villageois Mélampiens."

On nous saura gré sans doute d'avoir reproduit ces étranges documents. Chacun y verra une preuve éclatante du libéralisme Musulman et des saines doctrines que professe le Gouvernement Impérial en matière d'élections.

(Translation.)

THE following are two of the most curious documents :—

"Inhabitants of the village of Melampes,

"You will doubtless remember that I read to you the other day an Imperial Firman ordering each province to send to Constantinople one delegate, a respectable man. Consequently, as soon as you receive this order you will, without delay, elect M. George Margariti, of Melampes, and furnish him with a title of investiture ('masbata'), which you will sign. Send to me to-morrow, without fail, both the 'masbata' and M. Margariti. I shall await them under any circumstances—I shall admit of no bad excuse. If you disobey, I shall do to your village what I have done to the others.

"The Kaïmakam Governor of the District of Héraclium,
(Signed) "RECHIT EFFENDI."

To this order the villagers replied as follows :—

"Your Highness,

"You know that the village of Melampes is not the province, and that the whole of the latter ought to elect the delegate. However, you desire it, and we send him to you; but it is not in our power to send you the 'masbata' you demand.

"Your servants,
"The Villagers of Melampes."

We shall no doubt be thought well of for having reproduced these strange documents. Every one will see in them a glaring proof of Mussulman liberalism, and of the wholesome doctrines professed by the Imperial Government in the matter of elections.

No. 67.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 1.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, March* 26, 1867.

ON my calling on Prince Gortchakoff two days ago, his Excellency again expressed great regret that Her Majesty's Government are not disposed to join the other Powers in

recommending the Turkish Government to consent to the annexation of Candia to the Hellenic Monarchy.

He said Russia, France, Austria, and Italy have all agreed to urge the expediency of such a measure at Constantinople, and the refusal of Her Majesty's Government to join them will encourage the Sultan to hope that he may be able to re-establish his authority in the island.

I said that the success which had lately attended the Turkish military operations against the insurgents would be a sufficient reason for the Sultan's declining to grant the proposed concession, and that as your Lordship is of opinion that advice, even if good, should be also opportune, you are not disposed to offer any, which your reports from Candia and Constantinople have convinced you will be rejected.

His Excellency said that the language which reached Her Majesty's Government from Constantinople was only intended to encourage them to hold aloof from the other Powers, but the Reports which the Russian Government have lately received from Candia prove that there is no probability of the insurrection being suppressed. If, therefore, England would join the other Powers in declaring at Constantinople that the interest of Turkey herself, and the danger of a great European war arising out of the present complications, render it absolutely necessary that the Porte should sacrifice her possession, it might be considered certain that the wishes of Europe would be attended to.

No. 68.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 2, 1867.

HER Majesty's Government approve the language which you held in your conversation with Prince Gortchakoff, as reported in your Excellency's despatch of the 26th ultimo, in reference to the wish expressed by his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government might be induced to join in recommending the Turkish Government to consent to the annexation of Candia to Greece.

I have further to state to you that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to alter the instructions under which Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople is now acting, or to concur in pressing the Porte to give up Candia against the inclination of the Sultan, but they will not offer any obstacle to that measure, if spontaneously decided on by the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 69.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March* 13, 1867.

I HAVE had the honour to receive from Her Majesty's Ambassador a despatch dated the 1st instant, informing me that his Excellency had been assured by Aali Pasha, late Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Server Effendi would press the adoption of immediate measures for the relief of the unfortunate families of the Cretan insurgents, and for facilitating the removal of these families from the places in which they were suffering from hunger and cold; that his Excellency had not been able to ascertain that Server Effendi had made any distinct reports to the Porte on this matter; that Fuad Pasha has stated that there are no longer families on the seashore suffering from hunger and cold, and looking out for vessels to carry them away; that his Highness says that order and tranquillity have been so far restored, that he doubts whether there are many native Cretans who now desire to quit the island, or who would gain anything by doing so, that every effort will be made by the authorities to relieve the distress consequent on the insurrection; and that although the Porte cannot sanction the removal of subjects of the Sultan by foreign ships, it would itself be willing to afford means of transport to places of refuge within the Empire, to Cretans really desirous of leaving their country, and likely to escape sufferings by doing so.

Since the receipt of his Excellency's instruction, and with a view to comply with his wishes, I have been exerting myself in every way, to ascertain where any considerable number of families suffering from hunger and cold are to be found.

Except at Retimo, I am not aware of there being any mass of Christian families in distress, congregated at one spot.

Mr. Consular Agent G. Calocherino, in his letter to me of the 3rd instant, of which a translation has been transmitted to your Lordship, acquainted me that many families belonging to the districts of Amari and Saint Vassili had come to Retimo town and sought shelter at the foreign consular agencies, and that in his house alone were upwards of 200 souls.

The commanders of the Austrian frigate "Adria," and Italian corvette "Guiscardo," lately returned from Candia and Retimo to Suda Bay, and whom I have been to see on board their respective ships, have stated to me that there were at the time, on an average, at Retimo, 200 Christian families in distress, being ill-clad and evidently suffering from hunger.

The Imperial Commissioner, at an express interview I sought with his Highness on the subject, asserted that there are at Retimo a large concourse of Mussulman, as well as Christian, families suffering equal privations. That he has sent positive orders to Sadyk Bey, the Lieutenant-Governor, to cause a supply of flour, biscuit, and some clothing to be distributed indiscriminately amongst those requiring immediate relief. That a number of Christians were being lodged and relieved by the Bishop of Retimo, and that his Highness had moreover caused a large house there belonging to a Mussulman family to be emptied of its own inmates, in order that some of the suffering Christians might be lodged therein.

Mustapha Pasha, on my pressing the immediate adoption of such measures of relief, as suggested by Lord Lyons, concluded by remarking that he apprehended many more families, Christians as well as Mussulman, would be made to suffer incalculable misery, if the bands of foreign volunteers still on the island did not desist from scouring and devastating the peaceable villages, and added an allusion to the encouragement that, in his opinion, was being given to the rebellion by foreigners.

In my opinion, I know of no better means calculated to afford speedy and effectual relief to the unhappy sufferers by the insurrections than that of a mixed Commission, to consist of members appointed from Constantinople, and two or more selected on the spot, to receive contributions in money and kind, and superintend the administering of succour at each of the principal towns, where the unfortunate sufferers can be most easily relieved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—That a Commission should be so formed, and with the sanction of the Imperial Government, appears to me the more desirable, since its real object would thus be better understood by the two factions; and on relief being tendered to Christians and Mussulmans alike, neither belligerent, I presume, could consider his feelings to be wounded thereby, or construe such assistance into an encouragement of the insurrection itself, while the donor would feel equally reassured. Under the peculiar circumstances of the unhappy contest, donations, and even the expression of sympathy in behalf of one party and not of the other, is a matter above all embarrassing to the individual locally interested in observing a sincere neutrality in connection with the political bearing, real or imaginary, of the question at issue.

C. H. D.

No. 70.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March 16, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th instant, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Cretan delegates therein specified, left this port for Constantinople on the 13th instant, in the imperial steamer "Talia."

Almost simultaneously with Server Effendi's counter Proclamation, referred to in a previous despatch, another printed paper has anonymously been transmitted to the Consuls from Greece, purporting to emanate from the General Assembly of Cretans and bearing equally on the mission of Server Effendi. I venture to inclose a translation.

On the 14th the "Izzeddin" boat arrived from the Turkish capital with General Mehmed Hussein Pasha on board, besides a battalion of infantry, and a sum of money estimated at one million and a-half piastres.

More troops are said to be coming to fill up the gaps caused by sickness and warfare.

Mehmed Hussein Pasha, while holding the chief command of the Turkish army, is to be subordinate to the Imperial Commissioners.

The "Arkadi" is stated to have made a second trip to this island, on or about the

11th, and to have landed between the Retimo and Candia eleven Hellenic volunteers, provisions, ammunitions, &c. I am informed that on its return, last voyage, to Greece, about one hundred individuals, sufferers by the insurrection, took passage in that ship.

The Commander of the Turkish force in Apokorona having learnt that a large body of insurgents with volunteers had left that district for the purpose of carrying off the stores recently landed from on board the "Arkadi," attacked, on the 12th, their intrenched position at Tzifès, where it is said three hundred men under Kostarò remained. These last took to flight after a short encounter in which nine Christians were killed, with about fifteen casualties on the Turkish side.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard" sailed yesterday for Retimo and Candia. I have requested the British Consular officers at those ports to report to me whether any considerable number of the suffering Cretan population are to be found at any one place in their respective districts, and what effectual steps have been taken for the relief of their sufferings. I have forwarded, by the "Wizard," a small supply of biscuit and rice to be distributed amongst the unfortunates, temporarily lodged in Mr. Consular Agent G. Calocherino's house, while Lieutenant and Commander Murray has also offered to contribute some of his own provisions.

A raid is reported to have been made on some insurgent villages in Kissamos district, by the Imperial troops. Vulgaros, Kalathines, St. Yannis, have accordingly been sacked and burnt after a somewhat prolonged resistance. A small Turkish steamer entered Canea Port this morning with ten Turkish wounded from Kissamos Castelli.

Ali Riza Pasha is near Topolia on his way to Eunià-Khorià. The insurgents with Zimbrakakis have retreated to beyond Topolia in the mountains, at Petrakis.

The United States' corvette "Canandaqua" has just arrived from Malta.

I have, &c.

Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—The "Arkadia" is said to have again plied to this Island and to have removed, on the 15th, a number of suffering Christian families from Plaka Bey, in Saint Vassili district.

Captain Kriàris, one of the Cretan insurgent leaders was killed at the late encounter in Kissamos district after having received five wounds.

C. H. D.

Inclosure in No. 70.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

Cretans!

THE General Assembly of Cretans, composed of the undersigned members elected by universal suffrage, after nine months of cruel suffering and enduring perseverance on the part of the Cretan people, hereby addresses itself to you, Cretan Electors, for the purpose of announcing a second concession from the conquering tyrant of our country; furthermore, the second period of our national war now approaching its end.

Rejoice, oh Cretans! Inasmuch as even the third period, being the end of our struggle, and our deliverance from tyranny, are events not remote; it only awaits the flowers of spring in order to be crowned by them. Let us then patiently wait the time when we shall be able to inhale the sweet perfumes of such flowers.

The Sultan, replying to the petition of the Cretans in the negative and by threats, on the 11th July (o. s.), through his Prime Minister, Mehmed Rushdi, that same Sultan being convinced, after five months' experience, of his inability to reduce Crete by the aid of his Special Commissioner, Moustapha Pasha, and hearing the imposing voice of the free nations of Europe and America becoming louder in favour of our national war; and not being able to offer any excuse, and being aware of his own weakness when opposed to our national will, as expressed on the 20th of July (o. s.), the Sultan, apparently with good will, yet in an austere, perfidious manner, despatched another Commissioner, by name Server Effendi, to tell the Cretans that he acknowledges their rights, and that they must send to Constantinople new delegates to treat with the Sultan, to recover their former, as well as receive new, privileges.

Be not beguiled by such candour on the part of the Sultan, a common practice with Turks in general, but rather consider how you can best cut off the nails of this bloodthirsty monster, and discover the means of throwing round his own neck those chains by which he kept you fettered.

Before listening to what concessions he is to grant to you, remember that he has deceived the whole of Europe with his Hatti-Humayoum, which he has not put into execution.

Remember that he has abrogated all he gave the Cretans in the year 1858, and on other occasions.

Remember that the Turk, when hard pressed, promises everything, and is afterwards like the bad customer.

Remember that all those who approached this monster have been rewarded with either persecution or death, others have been hung, and some have been kept in durance for many years.

Remember that each time he has asked for delegates, he has done so merely for form's sake, and then done as he pleased.

Remember how he obtained such delegates by violence, by fine promises, and by false signatures.

Mind you that he does not grant this of his own goodwill, because, if so, he ought to have listened to the petition of the Cretans, and to their just claims from the beginning. Hence, neither now does he promise sincerely, nor does he intend keeping his promises. His object is merely to deceive us this time, as he has repeatedly done before. Since, whosoever yields only to force, is sure sooner or later to take back what he has thus given, and those that go as delegates incur great risk.

If the Sultan's new Commissioner should ask of you new delegates, reply, That the people of Crete had but one difference with the Sultan, and have elected their delegates unanimously and in a formal manner to settle the same through the medium of the Great Protecting Powers of Europe and their allies. That, apart from these representatives, the Cretan people do not acknowledge any other; and whoever should desire to confer with the Cretan people must address himself to their own delegates, and to no other.

The Cretan Assembly cannot admit that there are persons who wish to betray the national cause and their country in order to serve the ends of the Sultan. There are men, nevertheless, who are under the pressure of the tyrant. Possibly, the same may be compelled to proceed to Constantinople bearers of false petitions and signatures. Beware, then, of being inveigled into a similar snare, show up such men as not being delegates, and let every district protest against so pernicious and deceitful a measure.

Brother Cretans! Let us remember the sacred oath taken before God and nations in behalf of our native country. Let us repel every insidious proposal emanating from the Sultan, and let us perseveringly abide by our motto (Union or Death).

What are the concessions likely to compensate for so many great sacrifices we have made, and what tranquillity is our native country to enjoy so long as it is weighed down by Ottoman Domination? May the blood, still streaming from the new martyrs in our national struggle and for Christianity, warm the hearts of our brave warriors. May the tears of widows and orphans, of children dying from hunger; may all these sound like war-songs inciting us to found our national greatness and the liberty of Greece upon the ruins of our homes, upon the Christian temples destroyed, and on the ashes of Arkadi and the martyrs, hallowed by benedictions from the martyr-chorus of Hellenism hung on the gibbet over the corpse of the Patriarch Gregory.

Sfakia, January 20, 1867.

The General Assembly of Cretans,

(Signed)

A. Manusoyannàkis.
K. Volùdakis.
A. Mpiràkis.
Parthènios Perìdis.
Parthènios Kelaìdis.
A. Z. Mpoumpoulàkis.
A. Georgiàdis Lòyios.
Jos. A. Manusoyannàkis.
Jos. Hadji Rousso Vurdudàkis.
Paul Andrew Moràkis.
Mikail Kiriakìdis.
A. J. Tsìkhlis.
Stamàtis Milonoyannàkis.
Georgio X. Maniodàkis.
Alexander Markàkis.
Aneg. Manusolàkis.
Kostas P. Voludàkis.
Nikolaos Nikoludàkis.
A· Pappa Gèorgio.
Demetrius Pappadàkis.
A. Pappayannàkis.
A. Vardokokalàis.
N. Mantakàkis.
A. Kasselàkis.
A. Panoyotàkis.
Lamp. Ysontàkis.
Georgio Karkabàtios.
A. Poliangnostàkis.
Mikhail Ysùderos.
Mikhail Viotàki.

No. 71.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March* 17, 1867.

I HAVE had the honour to receive from Lord Lyons a despatch informing me that the Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs had assured his Excellency that effectual measures are to be taken immediately for the relief of the sufferings of the population of Crete; that Doctors Sawas and Atheodosidi will set out for Crete, and form with Server Effendi a commission to ascertain the wants of the suffering people, and give them speedy relief, these two medical officers taking with them a supply of money, linen, &c.; that if any of the Cretans desire to quit the island the Porte will be ready to afford them means of conveyance to any part of the Sultan's dominions; and that his Excellency had urged upon the Ottoman Ministers the necessity of taking care that the measures of the commissioners be prompt and really practical and effectual.

Agreeably to his Excellency's instruction I will not fail to make reports to your Lordship upon those measures, and to be very particular in ascertaining and stating the practical results of them.

Server Effendi, with whom I have conversed at some length on this subject, has expressed his willingness to co-operate effectually with the commission now daily expected from the capital. Although, he added, no instructions had as yet been sent to him from the Porte, he had looked forward to Doctors Sawas and Atheodosidi coming by the "Izzeddin," and whose departure from Constantinople could only have been postponed by some unforeseen contingency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 72.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 5.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 27, 1867.

I HAVE just had the honour to receive your Lordship's telegram of yesterday's date, stating that the Greek Government had good grounds for objecting to certain proceedings of Turkish ships-of-war at Syra and at the Piræus, as constituting an unlawful use of belligerent force.

I had before expressed this as my own opinion, and recommended the Porte to send special instructions on the point to the commanders of its cruizers.

I shall now repeat this advice with increased confidence and urgency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 73.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 5.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, March* 27, 1867.

ON the 22nd instant General Ignatieff, the Russian Minister here, came to see me, and told me that he had received a day or two before a telegram from his Government directing him to support a representation to be made by the French Ambassador to the Porte on the question of Crete. A similar instruction had, General Ignatieff said, been received by the Austrian Internuncio and the Prussian Minister. For his own part, General Ignatieff went on to say, he considered that his instructions were confined to the question of Crete; he had told M. Bourrée that he was fully prepared to support him in treating that question with the Porte, but that he could not go further. He had proposed to M. Bourrée, as a first step, that the European Powers should call upon the Porte and the insurgents to desist at once from hostilities in Crete. M. Bourrée had not acceded at the moment to this proposal, but General Ignatieff hoped it would nevertheless be adopted. Was I willing, he asked, to join him in pressing it upon M. Bourrée, or at all events to

unite with my French, Russian, Austrian, and Prussian colleagues, if they determined upon urging the Porte to put a stop to military operations in Crete?

I answered that my instructions from Her Majesty's Government were distinct and positive. I was enjoined to observe a careful neutrality. General Ignatieff had read, among the papers submitted to Parliament, your Lordship's despatches of the 17th January last. Those despatches had made him fully acquainted with the nature of the advice given by Her Majesty's Government to the Porte, with the form in which that advice had been tendered, and with the limits within which the action of Her Majesty's Government had been confined. I had no authority to transgress those limits.

General Ignatieff observed that if the Powers of Europe had already decided what the future condition of the Crete was to be; it was inhuman to allow hostilities to go on, the result of which could have no influence on the ultimate solution of the question.

I said that this was of course self evident, and I asked General Ignatieff whether he supposed that the Ottoman Government would agree to the proposed cessation of hostilities, and if it refused, what further steps were contemplated by Russia and France.

General Ignatieff declared in strong terms that under no circumstances would Russia intervene "materiellement" in the question. He hoped and believed that the moral influence of the Powers, especially if they were unanimous, would suffice to obtain the consent of the Porte.

The day before yesterday M. Bourrée himself told me that he had been in communication with his Government by telegraph respecting the advice to be tendered to the Porte, and that it had been finally determined that he should not do more than urge that the population of Crete should be permitted to decide freely for itself upon its future lot. He was referred for particulars to a despatch from M. de Moustier, which, owing to some mistake, had not yet reached him. He must therefore postpone taking any step for some days longer.

On the same evening Fuad Pasha spoke to me of the affairs of Crete. After adverting in grateful terms to the conduct of Her Majesty's Government, he proceeded to say that the Porte had received accounts of proceedings in Greece, which pointed at nothing less than a regular invasion of the adjoining provinces of Turkey. I said that I also had received alarming accounts of what was going on, but that, nevertheless, I must still most strongly advise him to avoid a rupture with Greece. The substance of what Fuad Pasha said on this occasion, and of what I have heard from the Grand Vizier on the subject, is that the Porte is fully aware of the danger of a rupture; that its forbearance has been extreme; that public opinion in Turkey is very much excited; that the Government is loudly blamed for its inactivity and pusillanimity; that it is urged to break off relations with Greece and send the Hellenic Minister and all Hellenic subjects out of the Empire; that while the Porte is pressed to act with moderation, and keep within the closest bounds of international law, the Greeks are permitted to outrage all law and all propriety. There is, Fuad Pasha said, a limit to forbearance as to everything else. I answered that it would, in my opinion, be a terrible calamity to Turkey, if that limit were now overpassed.

No. 74.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, April 5, 1867.*

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held in your conversations with the Russian Minister and Fuad Pasha, as reported in your despatch of the 27th ultimo.

No. 75.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 6.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April 5, 1867.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, an extract of a letter, dated the 29th ultimo, from Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget, reporting the state of affairs in Candia and at Syra.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure in No. 75.

Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.) *"Victoria," at Malta, March* 29, 1867.

IT is reported from Candia, that the delegates elected by each district in the island, and consisting of one Christian and one Mahometan for each, were sent to Constantinople on the 13th instant in a Turkish vessel of war. Many of the Christian delegates are said to have undertaken the task against their will, and under pressure from the authorities, whilst the districts of Sphakia, Selino, St. Vassili, Retimo Town, and Mylopotamos could not be prevailed upon to accept the proffered mission.

Such is the substance of the information furnished me by Mr. Consul Dickson; and Lieutenant Murray of the "Wizard" also reports, in connection with the same subject, that a respectable Rayah merchant sought the protection of the British flag in order to evade the authority of Mustapha Pasha, who wished to compel him to go to Constantinople as one of the delegates, a step which, he asserted, would subject him to the confiscation of his property by the Cretan Committee, and endanger the lives of himself and his family.

I have approved of the course taken by Lieutenant Murray in declining to afford the desired protection, and in recommending the merchant to submit to the authority of the Government. This person subsequently obtained protection at the American Consulate.

The new blockade-runner "Arkadi" has succeeded in making three successful trips to the island (although closely watched and followed by Turkish vessels of war), taking clothes, ammunition, and provisions, and removing the suffering Cretan families.

The Cretan National Assembly has created a Provisional Government, composed of seven members and a secretary, acting in the name of King George of Greece, and has issued a proclamation, that the island is to be considered Greek, and that Greek laws are to be enforced.

Lieutenant Murray also reports that the Egyptian camp established at Suda Bay, when the disturbances commenced, has been broken up and the troops have gone to Candia *en route*, it is believed, for Egypt.

Her Majesty's Consul at Syra being apprehensive of collisions taking place between the Turkish Government steamers visiting that island and the Greek blockade-runners they are employed in watching, has suggested the propriety of one of Her Majesty's ships being sent to cruise in those waters; but I have acquainted him, that as it does not appear that the lives or property of British subjects at Syra are jeopardised by the proceedings described, I do not think it advisable, under present circumstances (especially in the absence of any representation on the subject from Her Majesty's Minister at Athens, who, I presume, is fully aware of what is going on) to comply with his suggestion.

No. 76.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 8.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March* 30, 1867.

A DESPATCH dated the 27th instant was yesterday received by the Turkish Minister, in which he is directed by Fuad Pasha to address a strong remonstrance to the Hellenic Government against the continued assistance and encouragement afforded to the insurgents in Crete.

It will, I presume, be communicated to M. Tricoupi this day. It alludes vaguely to the systematic infringement of the blockade of Crete by the "Hydra," "Panhellenion," and "Arkadi," vessels belonging to a company subsidized by the Greek Government, but which are styled "pirates."

No. 77.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 10.)

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, March* 25, 1867.

HER Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," whose departure for Retimo and Candia I announced in my despatch of the 16th instant, returned to this port on the 20th. I am informed that these two provinces are to all appearances quiet, but that many of the able-bodied men had gone to the mountains for the purpose of taking part in the insurrection

From another source I learn that Coroneos, Korakos, and Petropoulakis, with a band of insurgents, were holding a council of war at Prasis, in Amari district.

The town of Retimo is still crowded with refugees in a state of helpless destitution. They belong to villages in the surrounding country which have mostly been devastated, while the whole of Mylopotamos district is actually being scoured by parties of soldiers, Cretan irregulars, also by foreign volunteers, with all the burning and other excesses which characterize such raids.

Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino, in a report addressed to me, of which the inclosed is a translation, computes the number of distressed Christian families at 150 within Retimo, and some 200 more outside the town. It is officially stated that the destitute Mohamedan population throughout Retimo province surpasses the number of the Christian. Sadyk Bey, the Lieutenant-Governor, is deservedly praised for his humane exertions in behalf of all the sufferers indiscriminately; but the means at the disposal of the authorities for affording anything like substantial relief, whether in food or clothing, are wholly insufficient.

Inclosed is a copy of a letter from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, stating, amongst other items of intelligence, that thousands of families in Candia province are suffering from hunger and cold, and that but scanty measures have been taken by the Governor towards the relief of the sufferers.

The United States' corvette "Canandaiqua" proceeded to Retimo on the 20th with the American Consul on board, who being provided with some barrels of flour, and a small sum of money, distributed the same among the Christian poor of that town. The "Canandaiqua" returned to Suda Bay on the 21st, and is now about to leave for Smyrna.

A Christian delegate from Retimo, and another for this city, took passage for Constantinople, on the 20th instant, in the steamer "Seyd-ul-bahré."

Sphakia has not deigned hitherto to be represented at the Ottoman capital, and the districts of Selinos, Mylopotamos, and St. Vassili are equally refractory. If credence is to be given to an insurgent report, one of the representatives, the member for Kissamos, in accordance with the Cretan counter-proclamation to Server Effendi's Firman, has just atoned for his "treason" in the fact of his house having been burnt down.

It turns out to be not Kriaris himself, but a nephew of his, that was killed at Topolia.

The Ottoman steam-frigate "Moukhbiri-surour" arrived yesterday from Constantinople, with 800 regular troops.

By the same, Hassan Pasha and Dr. Sawas are also come.

The "Arkadi" is reported to have made another run, on the 20th instant, to Tripiti

Some slight skirmishing is said to be still going on in Apokorona.

Inclosure 1 in No. 77.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, March* $\frac{5}{17}$, 1867.

CONFIRMING my previous letter of the $\frac{19\text{th}}{31\text{st}}$ ultimo, I have to report that the state of things in these parts is becoming worse every day.

The male inhabitants dare hardly walk out, fearing either to be killed or robbed.

On the $\frac{2\text{nd}}{14\text{th}}$ instant the malcontents murdered a Turk at Armeni village, six miles distant from this city; in consequence the Turks set-to frightening the Christians. The Lieutenant-Governor posted guards in the suburbs, in order to patrol outside the town. A party of Cretan Turks, intending to be revenged for the murder committed, remained some distance beyond where the patrol stood, for the purpose of attacking fifteen Christians who were carrying some oil to Retimo. The former fired upon some of these as they approached, while the rest, seeing what took place, hastened into town. The day following the Lieutenant-Governor ordered a detachment of troops to escort these Christians on their way back to their village, but we have not as yet any tidings of them.

On the night of the $\frac{3\text{rd}}{15\text{th}}$ some Cretan Turks sallied out of the town and proceeded a short distance beyond Arkadi in order to attack a band of insurgents, these having, according to report, set fire to some Turkish houses. These Turks, however, did nothing further than killing a poor Greek from the village of Kirgiànas, on the plea of his carrying arms, while the latter was indeed unarmed, and only accompanying his family. Hence, the Christian families dwelling in the neighbourhood of this town are all panic-stricken, and are endeavouring to enter the town for protection. But the Lieutenant-Governor will not

allow them to come; many are therefore fleeing to the mountains, while those that stay behind are exposed to greater and imminent peril.

There are now within this town some 150 Christian families, most of them very miserable, and to whom the authorities have been able to afford but slight relief hitherto. In the environs are said to be upwards of 200 families suffering equally from want. I hear that half this number in and outside the town desire to quit the country altogether.

In the present precarious state of things, the presence of one or two European ships of war is much called for, in behalf of the Mussulman as well as Christian families here resident. We have just now learnt that the same party of Cretan Turks who had gone some way beyond Arkadi have killed another Christian at Prassas, a village half-an-hour distant from this town.

The four sacks of biscuit and the sack of rice you were so good as to send, along with the other four sacks of biscuit kindly presented by Commander Murray of Her Majesty's ship "Wizard," have all been distributed amongst these poor families lodged in my house.

To-day troops, regular and irregular, are to leave town for Amari and St. Vassili districts.

I have, &c.
(Sigued) G. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 77.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, March* 18, 1867.

I OBSERVE by your last despatch that you wish to be informed whether there are in this province any large number of families suffering from hunger and exposure to the weather, and what measures have been taken by the authorities for relieving the sufferers. Her Majesty's ship "Wizard" arrived here only yesterday, and Commander Murray, having remained here some hours, immediately sailed for Canea. I therefore send this report to you by the Austrian Lloyd's Post, which leaves to-day for Canea.

There is no event of importance worth mentioning, excepting the detention of two Greek subjects with letters sent through the last Austrian Lloyd's Post by the Insurrectionary Committee at Athens addressed to the chiefs of the insurgents. The letters in question, and the bearers, are now in the hands of Reshit Pasha.

Last week a Turk was murdered in this town by a certain young Christian named Themistocles N. Volanakis, as is stated by the Ottoman, though no proof exists against Volanakis who denies it; and last Saturday night another Turk was wounded by an Hellenic subject of very bad conduct named Giovanni Agathakis. No proofs, however, have as yet been obtained by the police against the latter.

A rumour is circulated here to-day that the insurgents are assembled in the village Gergeri of Messara. This news, however, is not confirmed.

Large numbers of families, especially in the districts of Messara, Malevisi, Temenos, and Pediada, are suffering from hunger and exposure to the weather.

In the month of December last the local authorities distributed to about 4,000 Turkish families who have been accumulated in this town from the various districts of this Province of Candia two okes of rice and sixty drams of butter to each person.

As the communication of this town at that period was interrupted with the districts of this province, only 200 poor Christian families were then in town, and received the same relief from the local authorities.

No other measures have been taken by the authorities for relieving the sufferers.

In accordance with the best information I have been able to obtain as to the number of Christian families in this province who are suffering on account of the unhappy insurrection, it does not exceed 10,000 families.

The Turkish families in the same category remain in this town and do not exceed the number of 1,000 families. The greatest part of the poor Turkish families are now in a better state, as they have sacked many Christian villages, and have brought to this town not only grain of all sorts, but also clothing and furniture.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYSIMACHUS A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 78.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March 27, 1867.*

YOUR Lordship has been apprised by my last despatch of the 25th instant, of Dr. Sawas' arrival the day previous. I have since lost no time in conferring with that gentleman upon the object of his mission to this island. After explaining to me the causes which unavoidably retarded his departure from Constantinople, he added, that he had brought with him a few necessaries, such as linen, some bedding, &c., but that a complete supply of articles would arrive here very shortly to enable him to fit up a hospital of 300 beds.

Dr. Sawas further observed, that with a view to carry out his instructions from the Porte in the matter of relief to be administered to Cretans, who are suffering in consequence of the insurrection, a Commission must, in the first instance, be formed on the spot, with the aid of Server Effendi.

I proceeded to state to Dr. Sawas that, while disclaiming any intention on my part to interfere in any way with what arrangements he and the other members of the proposed Commission may deem expedient to make, I shall, nevertheless, feel it incumbent upon me to report to your Lordship from time to time such practical and effectual measures as the Commissioners shall adopt, and that I shall also be particular in ascertaining and communicating the practical results of them. I added, that as Dr. Sawas was already provided with certain necessaries, and without having to wait here until the Commission shall have been definitely formed, whether he himself ought not to proceed at once to Retimo and Candia, where prompt relief was most urgently needed; and in corroboration of my assertion I read to him those passages in the letters of Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino and Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, of which copies are inclosed in my last despatch to your Lordship, having reference to the numbers of sufferers congregated at those places. I moreover adverted to the fact of the Austrian Lloyd's boat being daily expected to arrive, and which would soon proceed on to Retimo and Candia, as a favourable conveyance for him to go by.

Dr. Sawas, I regret to say, is to-day unwell, but he assures me that in a couple of days hence he hopes to be able to proceed to Retimo and Candia by a Government ship.

I am glad to be able to state, moreover, that Server Effendi has just sent to Retimo a ship-load of wheat for the use of the sufferers in that province.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 79.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March 28, 1867.*

ACCORDING to information which has reached this town from the interior, Ali Riza Pasha made an attempt on the 21st instant to force the pass into Selino, leading through the valley of Ennea-Khoria, somewhere near Agios-Yannis and Petrakia.

After an ineffectual attack on some insurgent bands, commanded by Captains Hadji, Mikhalis and Kriaris, the Imperial troops are said to have retreated to their former position at Topolia with some 100 casualties.

The insurgent loss was about thirteen killed.

Two Italian deserters from the insurgent camp in Selino have just arrived.

Colonel Zimbrakakis is reported to have returned to Omalos.

Jemil Pasha, Aide-de-camp to the Sultan, arrived yesterday from Constantinople by the steamer "Sultanieh."

The Italian aviso "Sirena" has just entered Suda Bay, from Messina.

One hundred and twenty horses were conveyed yesterday to town, coming from Salonica.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 80.

Lord A. Loftus to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 8.)

(Extract.) *Berlin, April 6, 1867.*

I INQUIRED to-day from Baron Thile what instructions had been sent to the Prussian Minister at Constantinople in respect to the question of Candia.

His Excellency replied that Count Brassier de St. Simon had been instructed to act in concert with the French, Russian, Austrian and Italian Ministers in recommending to the Porte to abandon Candia, and that a negative answer had been received to their recommendation.

His Excellency then stated that on the invitation of Russia the Prussian Minister at Constantinople had been instructed to associate himself to his four colleagues in recommending to the Porte to suspend all military operations in Candia, and to send a Commission to be composed of members of the several Legations of the Great Powers at Constantinople to Candia in order to report on the state of affairs in the island, and on the wishes of the populations.

His Excellency stated that this proposal had emanated from St. Petersburgh, but he was not aware whether it had yet been carried into effect.

No. 81.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April 8, 1867.*

I HAVE to state to your Excellency that, if you think advantage might result from your doing so, you may send one of your Secretaries to ascertain on the spot the real state of things in Crete; but you would, of course, not do this without the assent of the Porte.

It does not, at present, seem desirable to send a joint Commission to the island, and any Secretary sent by you must act alone.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 82.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 13.)

(Extract.) *Athens, April 3, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of two letters which have been addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Syra in regard to the affairs of Crete; and likewise a copy of a letter from Lieutenant Murray, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Wizard," which contains some information upon the same subject that may be of interest to your Lordship.

The blockade-runner "Arkadi" returned safely to Syra on the 30th ultimo, after landing a portion of her cargo and the volunteers she took over at Rodakina, in the district of Agios Basilios, on the south coast of Crete, and the remainder at Melissa, in the same neighbourhood. She remained only two hours at Rodakina on the night of the 28th, having been disturbed by the approach of Turkish cruizers. She then stood out to sea until the following night, when she returned to Melissa and discharged the remainder of her cargo, which consisted of biscuit, flour, clothing, ammunition, and medical stores. She brought away only a few sick and wounded volunteers.

The Commission and public here continue to speak very hopefully of the prospects of the insurrection.

The greater number of the Garibaldians mentioned in my despatch of the 20th ultimo have already left Athens, as is said, for Corfu and Brindisi. A Government steamer transported them to the Isthmus of Corinth this morning, whence they will continue their voyage in a steamer hired specially for this service.

Inclosure 1 in No. 82.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, March 27, 1867.*

THE "Austrian" for Constantinople being still here, I have only time to forward the inclosed Greek paper "Nomos," and to inform you that the Turkish Government

steamer "Ismaila," Captain Mechmet Bey, arrived here this afternoon about half-past 2 P.M. from Retimo (according to the report made at the Health Office). The vessel did not enter the harbour, but remained outside, and sent a boat to the Health Office. The Turkish Consul's clerk accompanied the Turkish officers in the boat outside the harbour to the Turkish Consul's house, which stands on the sea, looking eastward; and it was supposed the "Ismaila" had gone away northward. A caïque, however, arrived here from Tinos, reported the "Ismaila" was still standing off to the east of this island, and she is still to be seen there now, moving about.

The "Arkadi" was to have started for Crete this afternoon with provisions, clothes, ammunition, and about sixty-five volunteers, including a French officer of the name of Desmazes, said to be correspondent of the French "Siècle" and Greek "Indépendance," and a Hungarian of the name of Ranz, who was an officer in the Hungarian war of 1848, and lately in Italy. There is also here a British subject, who, from what he told me, is correspondent of the "Daily News," come here last from Athens, and who intends also to go in the "Arkadi" to Crete; but now the "Ismaila" seems to be hovering about (and the intended departure of the "Arkadi" will be most certainly known to the Captain of the "Ismaila," as nothing is kept secret here, and the Ottoman Consul will have informed him), it is probable the "Arkadi" will not start for the present.

This visit of the "Ismaila," so very *mal à propos* for the Greeks, has occasioned a good deal of discontent among the populace; and I learn the police is actively engaged, as far as its means permit, in endeavouring to prevent any insult or violence being offered to the boats of the "Ismaila" should they come ashore again, as is probable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 82.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, March 29, 1867.*

ON the evening of the 27th I had the honour of reporting the intended departure of the "Arkadi" for Crete, and the arrival here of the Turkish Government vessel "Ismaila." While closing my letter the "Arkadi" left. It was very dark at the time, and the captain had given orders that there should be no noise or firing on board; the Volunteers, notwithstanding, discharged their firearms—indeed, I heard them, and thought it must be some disorder at the time. The "Ismaila" was standing on and off the east coast of the Island of Syra, a mile or so north of this town; and the "Arkadi" having no lights visible got safely off.

It was only at 6·30 A.M. the next day that the "Ismaila" became aware, from signals by flag made by the Turkish Consul, of the "Arkadi" being gone, and the "Ismaila" immediately started back in the direction of Crete. The "Arkadi" will thus have had a nine hours' start of the "Ismaila," and I do not know to what place she will be gone; but supposing the "Ismaila" to have taken the same direction, it is presumed the "Arkadi" will have had ample time to perform her operations; and, unless disturbed by some other Turkish cruizer, or taken or destroyed since, she may be expected back every hour.

A few days since the chief engineer of the "Arkadi" (a British subject of the name of Anderson) who came out in her, then the "Dream," and having been discharged, had engaged in the service of the Greek Steam Navigation Company, the present owners of the "Arkadi," came to me to ask my advice about throwing up his engagement. He said that when he engaged here the "Arkadi" was not armed; that she had been armed since his engagement; that he had been formerly engaged in blockade-running in America; that these vessels were not armed; that in case of the misfortune of being taken, then he knew the British Government would not abandon him altogether, and that, if alive, he would be cared for; that now the "Arkadi" was armed, he had been told the Turks were determined to destroy the "Arkadi," and that he and all on board would be considered in the light of pirates, the "Arkadi" holding no commission from any recognized power or authority, and that the destruction of her and the crew, if it should occur, would be approved of, and that in such case he would have no protection or sympathy, even should he survive. He therefore wished for my advice on the subject.

I told him that I strongly advised him and the other English on board to throw up their engagements, especially if the circumstances of the engagements were such as he represented; that my own conviction was that the Turks would destroy the "Arkadi" whenever they got the chance, and that he and the rest of the crew of the armed vessel would meet with no commiseration.

He thanked me and left, and I have since learnt that he has engaged to serve in any of the Company's vessels (whether armed or unarmed is not stated) running to any of the Turkish blockaded ports, and that he is now gone again to Crete in the "Arkadi."

This morning the Austrian boat from Crete is in.

Mr. Dickson, in a note of the 25th instant, says there is nothing important, only more troops are arriving from Constantinople.

Captain Murray, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Wizard," writes me, in a letter, from Canea, of the 27th instant, that a little fighting has taken place in Kissamos:—

"Aali Pasha attempted to force a passage into Selinos, but seems to have failed, with some loss; the insurgents lost some 10 or 12, and the Turkish loss is put down at 150. Insurgents are mustering in Apokorona for an onslaught on Mechmet Pasha. Vice-Consul at Candia (where I have lately been) tells me that all the men from the Eastern districts have joined the insurgents. A few troops, some 800, have arrived from Constantinople, and, I believe, more are coming; also some regulars from Smyrna. American corvette has been here and gone to Smyrna to communicate with Constantinople by telegraph."

Another Greek letter from Canea, of the $\frac{13}{25}$th March, says, since the two engagements in Kissamos and Apokorona, of the $\frac{2nd}{14th}$ and $\frac{3rd}{15th}$, there has been one on the $\frac{7}{19}$th at Yerospiglia (Apokorona?), and another, on the $\frac{10th}{22nd}$, at Spiglia (Kissamos?) in the first of which latter 120 Turks were killed and a few Christians; and in which the brother of Hadji Michali was wounded; it lasted five hours, and the Christians retreated as the Turks were reinforced. In the second engagement, of the 10th, of the Christians 7 were killed and wounded, and 150 Turks. Nothing since, only we hear of a battle at Milidoni, of Apokorona; but this is not yet confirmed. Certain it is, the Turks are desperate, for they killed many unarmed men, women, and children in Kissamos. The insurrection is flourishing all over the island, and Turkish reports are not to be credited. Last night 800 troops, with Dr. Sawas, arrived from Constantinople, 400 having arrived two days previously. The Turks say they expect more.

The Provisional Government has protested to the foreign Consuls against the election of the Deputies and against the atrocities of the Turks.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

P.S. 30th.—Yesterday the Russian Government steamer "Taman" arrived here from Mytilene; and to-day the Italian Government steam-vessel "Sirene" has arrived here from Crete, having left Suda Bay yesterday; the only news being that Mustapha Pasha was to leave for Constantinople this day, Hussein Pasha replacing him in Crete. The "Sirene" leaves to-day for Mytilene.

The "Arkadi" is not yet returned.

Inclosure 3 in No. 82.

Lieutenant Murray, R.N., to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, March* 25, 1867.

WHEN last mail left here I had not returned from Retimo and Candia, where I went to inquire into the condition of the families. At Retimo I found upwards of 200 Christian and many Mahometan families. They were in a very wretched state, having hardly any food, &c., nor money to buy any.

At the British Agent's there are about 150 women and children, and although well lodged, ill off for food. Mr. Dickson sent down a few bags of bread, &c., and I gave what I could spare from the ship's stores. The poor things were very grateful for them and the little money we gave them.

The Governor is a most kind and humane man, makes no distinction between Mahometans and Christians, but gives what little he has to both. He has been promised provisions from Canea for some time, but they are not yet forthcoming.

At Candia the houses are all occupied by Mussulman families, so there are few Christians in the town. Outside, however, there are numbers living in the roofless houses of their own villages, subsisting as they best may.

The Vice-Consul tells me that all the men from the Eastern districts, who hitherto had remained neutral, have now taken up arms, and joined the insurrection. Coroneos is supposed to be mustering his forces preparatory to a descent on the district of Candia or Retimo.

I am inclined to believe, if the Cretans are true to themselves, that all the resources of Turkey will not conquer them this summer.

One thing I have forgotten to say. What are we to do with the 60,000 or 70,000 Mahometan inhabitants if the island is given over to Greece? The answer to this is simple enough. I have been at some pains to ascertain the opinion of the people in the island, and everybody I have met with is of opinion that one-half or two-thirds would turn Christians. They say that many in the island are Mussulman but in name, and Christians at heart. What reason have we to believe they would not change their faith, as their forefathers did, for expediency's sake?

The most strange thing is, that although at present a man would kill his own brother for the faith, when peace is restored they will be the best of friends. After all, their customs are the same as Christians, except eating pork. They marry with each other, and drink wine, &c.

No. 83.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 13.)

(Extract.) *Athens, April 3, 1867.*

M. TRICOUPI spoke to me about the conduct of the Turkish cruizers in continuing to hover about the Greek coast after an assurance had been given to the Greek Government that they would be instructed not to do so. And he complains very seriously of the Ottoman Consul at Syra for communicating by signal with these vessels in order to apprize them of the movements of the Greek shipping. He said that the Government had promised M. Photiades to take effectual measures for the protection of this gentleman against the indignation felt by the people of Syra in this matter, but that the Government were also determined not to tolerate a repetition of such proceedings.

I trust, therefore, that both the Commanders of the Turkish cruizers and the Consul will be instructed to refrain from such acts hereafter.

No. 84.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord, *Athens, April 4, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, the extract of a letter dated yesterday, from Mr. Consul Dickson, which reached me this morning by the Russian frigate "Grand Admiral."

In this letter, as your Lordship will observe, Mr. Dickson reports an engagement between a large body of insurgents and two battalions of Turkish troops, close to Canea; and although the result appears to have been indecisive, this affair is of some importance as showing that the insurgents can muster a sufficient force to take the aggressive where the Turks may be supposed to be least open to attack.

I hear from Mr. Consul Lloyd that the "Arkadi" again left Syra on the evening of 2nd instant with a full cargo of provisions, ammunition, clothing, and fifty volunteers, all Cretans, as was supposed for Selinos, on the south-west coast of Crete.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, April 3, 1867.*

I AVAIL myself of the departure this morning of the Russian frigate for the Piræus, to state that yesterday morning some 2,000 insurgents and Mainiotes, under the command of (it is said) Mavroyenis, Botzaris, Kriaris, &c, attacked two Turkish pickets that were guarding the passes of Perivolia near the main spring which supplies this town. Two battalions were sent up from this town, and the engagement, which must have been somewhat sharp, lasted until the afternoon.

Accounts of the affair are still very vague, as usual. It is said that it was intended as a diversion to the force at Kissamos.

Insurgent loss—some 29 killed (no wounded !)—with some chopping of heads, ears, and hands. Turks say only one of their party killed and about 20 wounded. Please to inform Lord Lyons of this affair.

No. 85.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 13.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I learnt last night from M. Bourrée, the French Ambassador, that he had at last made the communication to the Porte, respecting the island of Crete, which had been so long a subject of speculation and discussion.

M. Bourrée told me that he had waited upon Fuad Pasha in the morning, and had said to him that he had a very important communication to make to him on the part of the Government of the Emperor, a communication in which he should have the support of four at least of his colleagues. His Excellency went on to tell me that he had refrained from speaking of the annexation of Crete to Greece, or making any definite suggestion as to the ultimate disposal of the island. He had confined himself to urging that the people of Crete should be allowed to decide themselves, by a full and free vote, upon their future lot. As a preliminary to taking this vote, he had suggested that the Porte should consent to an immediate cessation of hostilities.

M. Bourrée proceeded to inform me that Fuad Pasha had not taken upon himself to give offhand the formal answer of the Porte, but had nevertheless expressed very distinctly his own sentiments on the proposals. His Highness had (M. Bourrée said), very positively rejected both of them, and had declared that the Porte had not the least intention of submitting the sovereignty of the Sultan over Crete to a popular vote ; that the war was now entirely with foreign volunteers, with whom the Porte would not consent to any armistice ; and that if the European Powers meant to take Crete away from the Sultan, it behoved them to effect their purpose by fighting another battle of Navarino—that in this manner only could the Turks lose Crete without sacrificing also their honour.

From what I hear from the Representatives of Russia, Prussia, and Italy, I have reason to think that they will speak to Fuad Pasha to-morrow in support of M. Bourrée's communication, but will lay particular stress upon the request for an immediate cessation of hostilities. The Austrian Internuncio will very probably act in the same way. I have been strongly urged, especially by the Russian Minister, to join my colleagues in supporting the French proposals, or at all events to make, in concert with them, a demand for a cessation of hostilities in Crete.

I have, of course, been careful not to transgress your Lordship's instructions. I have accordingly declined to take any step in the matter, and have stated distinctly to my colleagues that my instructions require me to observe a strict neutrality, and to confine myself to the tender of advice which I have already made to the Porte, in pursuance of the orders conveyed to me in the two despatches from your Lordship, of the 17th January, which have been laid before Parliament.

Should your Lordship deem it proper that I should alter my conduct or language regarding these matters, I venture to request you to give me further instructions as speedily as possible.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 86.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 13.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, April* 3, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the Representatives of Austria, Italy, Prussia and Russia, waited separately on Fuad Pasha on the 30th ultimo, and informed him that they were instructed by their respective Governments to support the representation which had been made to him two days before by the French Ambassador respecting the Island of Crete.

No. 87.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 13.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 3, 1867.

MUSTAPHA KYRITLI PASHA has been recalled from Crete, and has returned hither. The Sultan is stated to be extremely displeased with the results of Mustapha Pasha's mission as Imperial Commissioner to Crete, and is said to have refused to see him on his return.

The Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, has arrived here, in obedience to a summons from the Porte, and is, I understand, to assume the command of the troops in the southern provinces of Turkey in Europe. Crete, as well as Thessaly and Epirus, will, it is believed, form part of his command; and I am informed it is the intention of the Porte to send him immediately to Crete. Reinforcements of troops are also, I hear, to be sent immediately to that island and the neighbourhood of the Greek frontier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 88.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 13, 1867.

HER Majesty's Government approve the course pursued by your Excellency, as reported in your despatch of the 29th ultimo, with regard to the request made to you by the Representatives of different Powers that you should join in the representation which they were about to make to the Porte on the subject of Crete.

Your Excellency will already have learnt from my despatch of the 30th ultimo, that Her Majesty's Government wish you to continue to act on the instructions with which you have been furnished on this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 89.

Fuad Pasha to M. Musurus.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. Musurus, April* 13.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le* 4 *Avril,* 1867.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-jointe une copie de la dépêche que je viens d'adresser à son Excellence Djémil Pacha pour lui rendre compte d'une démarche faite en dernier lieu par l'Ambassadeur de France relativement à la Crète, et appuyée par les Représentants d'Autriche, d'Italie, de Prusse, et de Russie.

Ainsi que votre Excellence le relèvera de la lecture de cette pièce, les dispositions qui viennent d'être manifestées par les dites Puissances font surgir une question d'une incalculable gravité pour l'avenir de l'Empire. Bien que nous ayons opposé, comme nous opposerons toujours, un refus péremptoire à toute démarche de la nature de celle dont la France vient de prendre l'initiative, la seule chose qui nous console, c'est l'abstention du Cabinet de St. James de s'associer à cette intervention des autres Grandes Puissances.

Nous sommes heureux d'y constater une nouvelle preuve de cette amitié franche et loyale du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique envers notre pays; et rien ne nous est plus cher que d'en exprimer à chaque occasion notre vive reconnaissance et d'en consolider de plus en plus les liens. La circonstance critique où nous nous trouvons rehausse encore la valeur précieuse de son appui en notre faveur.

Je viens, par conséquent, vous prier, M. l'Ambassadeur, de communiquer à Lord Stanley le contenu de la dépêche ci-jointe, et nous espérons fermement que sa Seigneurie, appréciant dans son équité mes considérations y énoncées, voudra bien nous continuer jusqu'à la fin cette même politique bienveillante par laquelle il nous sera facile de conjurer toutes les complications auxquelles cette attitude des Puissances sus-nommées pourrait donner lieu.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *April* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch which I have just addressed to his Excellency Djemil Pasha, to acquaint him with a course of action recently taken by the French Ambassador relative to Crete, and supported by the Representatives of Austria, Italy, Prussia, and Russia.

As your Excellency will perceive from the perusal of this despatch, the dispositions manifested by the said Powers raise a question of incalculable importance for the future of the Empire. Although we returned, as we shall always return, a peremptory refusal to every measure of the nature of that in which France has just taken the initiative, the only thing which consoles us is the holding aloof of the Cabinet of St. James from associating itself with the intervention of the other Great Powers.

We are happy to recognize in this a new proof of the sincere and loyal friendship of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty towards our country; and nothing is more pleasing to us than to express on every occasion our lively gratitude, and to continue to draw closer these ties. The critical position in which we are placed still further enhances the value of their support.

I beg you, therefore, M. l'Ambassadeur, to communicate to Lord Stanley the contents of the inclosed despatch, and we confidently hope that his Lordship will, with his usual justice, appreciate the considerations treated of therein, and that he will throughout continue this friendly policy towards us, which will render it easy for us to avoid all the complications which might arise from the attitude of the above-mentioned Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure in No. 89.

Fuad Pasha to Djemil Pasha.

Le 4 *Avril*, 1867.

LES évènements viennent malheureusement de justifier le triste pressentiment que la Sublime Porte avait concu depuis quelque temps au sujet des dispositions de quelques Puissances à son égard. Mais il ne pouvait pas entrer dans sa pensée que celles-ci iraient jusqu'à vouloir entamer le principe de l'intégrité de notre Empire, principe dont le maintien n'avait cessé jusqu'ici d'être reconnu unanimement comme une condition indispensable de l'équilibre Européen.

Son Excellence M. Bourrée est yenu me voir Jeudi dernier le 28 Mars, pour s'acquitter d'une démarche qui venait de lui être prescrite par son Gouvernement relativement à la Crète.

Je ne saurais mieux faire, pour vous mettre en état d'apprécier la portée de cette démarche, que de reproduire ici aussi fidèlement que possible la conversation qui a eu lieu entre l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français et moi.

Son Excellence a commencé par affirmer que l'intérêt de tout le monde exigeait de voir la Turquie se délivrer de toutes préoccupations et difficultés que la Crète lui imposait. Elle a ajouté que la France, d'accord avec quelques autres Puissances, était persuadée que l'élection des délégués arrivés en dernier lieu à Constantinople de la Crète ne s'était pas effectuée dans les conditions voulues, en tant que ces délégués auraient été choisis parmi les habitants des villes ou des districts qui sont sous l'influence des autorités Ottomanes; qu'en conséquence ils ne pouvaient, aux yeux du Gouvernement de l'Empereur comme des autres Puissances, être considérés comme les représentants légitimes de la population insulaire; que ses entretiens avec quelques-uns de ces délégués l'avaient confirmé dans cette opinion; et que, dès lors, il devenait nécessaire de renvoyer ces délégués, qui ne pouvaient pas avoir la confiance de leur pays ni de l'Europe, et de procéder à de nouvelles élections sous la surveillance des Consuls étrangers. Aussi, dans la pensée du Gouvernement de l'Empereur, ce plébiscite devait-il avoir pour condition préalable la cessation immédiate des hostilités dans toutes les parties de l'île.

Je répondis à M. Bourrée qu'aux yeux du Gouvernement du Sultan l'insurrection Crétoise proprement dite était terminée depuis longtemps; qu'il ne s'agissait aujourd'hui que d'expulser les aventuriers étrangers qui se maintenaient encore dans l'île, et d'effacer les traces de leurs menées subversives; qu'à peine les sujets Crétois de Sa Majesté

Impériale le Sultan avaient-ils fait leur soumission, que la Sublime Porte s'était empressée de leur accorder l'amnistie, et que, tout en s'appliquant à fermer les plaies ouvertes par les derniers événements, elle s'était livrée en même temps à la recherche des moyens propres à assurer l'avenir de la Crète par l'institution d'une administration forte qui doit empêcher le retour de ces troubles, et développer le bien-être de toutes les classes de la population de l'île. Dans ce but le Gouvernement Impérial a envoyé, continuai-je, un firman ordonnant que chaque district fournisse deux ou trois délégués Musulmans et Chrétiens appelés à donner à la Commission formée pour l'organisation de l'administration insulaire des renseignements en ce qui concerne les besoins locaux, firman dont le contenu a été communiqué en son temps aussi bien aux Missions du Sultan en Europe qu'à celles des Grandes Puissances à Constantinople. Mais, cela faisant, il a été loin de la pensée du Gouvernement Impérial d'appliquer en Crète le principe du suffrage universel, et encore moins de convoquer une Assemblée Constituante. La Sublime Porte n'a nullement entendu aliéner son droit d'élaborer elle-même les lois qui doivent régir la nouvelle administration de la Crète, et c'est à elle seule de rechercher les moyens d'assurer la tranquillité et la prospérité de la population Crétoise. En conséqueuce, le mandat des délégués demandés à cette population ne consiste qu'à éclairer le Gouvernement Impérial sur les points relatifs aux conditions de leur bien-être. Les déclarations du Gouvernement Impérial ne laissent aucun doute sur ce point; et le mode de choix qui a été suivi se trouve parfaitement conforme à ce but. La Commission en question a été aussitôt instituée, et les délégués ont été appelés devant elle toutes les fois qu'on a eu besoin de leur demander des renseignements. Je conclus en disant à son Excellence M. Bourrée qu'il n'y a eu rien dans cette marche de contraire aux vues du Gouvernement Impérial, vues qui sont à la connaissance de tout le monde, et que rien de plus ne pouvait être fait.

Mais, s'il s'agissait de procéder à ces élections par le suffrage universel, tel qu'on le proposait, l'on viserait à un but tout autre que celui qu'on avait en vue. J'ai donc demandé à M. l'Ambassadeur de France quel pouvait être le but des Puissances en nous proposant cette forme.

M. Bourrée me répliqua que le but de la proposition du Gouvernement de l'Empereur était de connaître les vœux véritables de la population de la Crète: si elle voulait une institution analogue à celle de Samos, ou s'ériger en Principauté Vassale comme la Moldo-Valachie et la Serbie, ou bien s'incorporer à la Grèce. Mon interlocuteur ajouta que l'Europe ne considérait pas ce plébiscite comme une chose sans précédent; que l'Autriche avait cédé par cette voie la Vénétie qui lui était à charge, et que peut-être avait-elle lieu de se repentir de ne l'avoir pas fait à temps. Il est impossible, me dit-il, d'aller aujourd'hui à l'encontre de l'opinion de la population, et tout Gouvernement est obligé de la suivre. Dans l'opinion du Cabinet des Tuileries, le Gouvernement Ottoman. en prenant pour base de sa politique les vœux de la population, sauvegardera sa dignité, écartera pour toujours la question de Crète, et il pourra de la sorte agir avec d'autant plus d'énergie dans les autres parties de la Turquie d'Europe où des troubles surgiraient éventuellement. M. Bourrée termina en disant que ce que désirent avant tout les Puissances, c'est le maintien de l'Empire Ottoman, et que le conseil même de la cession de la Crète est une conséquence de ce désir.

Je fis observer à M. l'Ambassadeur que, quelle que soit la sollicitude des Puissances pour l'Empire Ottoman, l'on voudra bien admettre que la Sublime Porte connaît et apprécie mieux ses propres intérêts, et voit de plus près les dangers qui peuvent la menacer; que la proposition qui lui était faite serait aussi funeste par ses résultats qu'elle l'était par sa forme. Certes, il ne m'appartient pas, ajoutai-je, de discuter le mérite du suffrage universel pour connaître les vœux des populations, et les conséquences qu'il a pu produire en Europe; mais le droit de souveraineté est basé dans l'Empire sur d'autres principes légaux. Il est donc de toute impossibilité pour le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan de se laisser dépouiller de ses droits par l'application en Crète d'un plébiscite qui demain pourrait être étendu à tout l'Empire; et il ne consentirait jamais à exécuter tout ce que les populations demanderaient aux portes mêmes de Constantinople. Là-dessus je manifestai au Représentant de Sa Majesté l'Empereur l'étonnement de la Sublime Porte de voir ces mêmes Puissances qui considèrent le maintien de la Turquie comme indispensable pour l'équilibre Européen, lui faire ainsi une proposition qui, si elle était mise à exécution, ne tendrait à rien moins qu'à en amener graduellement l'anéantissement complet. L'Ile de Crète, repris-je, ne peut être assimilée ni à Samos ni aux Principautés Danubiennes; car tous ces pays sont habités par une population homogène, ce qui a permis de leur accorder une administration spéciale. Mais il n'existe dans les autres parties de l'Empire pas un arrondissement dans les mêmes conditions. La Crète contient près de 120,000 Musulmans à côté de 200,000 Chrétiens; plus de la moitié du sol appartient aux premiers. Il est donc

impossible d'ériger une administration Chrétienne pas plus en Crète que dans toute autre partie de l'Empire. La Sublime Porte, poursuivis-je, a consacré en faveur de ses sujets Chrétiens le principe d'égalité qu'elle applique sincèrement, et dont elle est décidée à étendre encore l'application. Mais elle n'entend pas du tout que ce principe, au lieu de faire entrer largement les Chrétiens dans l'administration du pays, tende à faire éliminer l'élément Musulman. En m'étendant sur ce terrain, je fis ressortir la gravité de l'atteinte que la proposition en question porterait aux conditions mêmes de notre existence, proposition que la Sublime Porte ne pouvait accepter sans souscrire d'avance à son propre anéantissement.

Quant à la cession de l'Ile de Crète à la Grèce, je déclarai franchement à mon interlocuteur que, pour obtenir cette cession, il fallait un nouveau Navarin. Aucune Puissance n'est aujourd'hui assez forte, poursuivis-je, pour triompher des forces réunies des cinq Puissances; ce ne sera pas un aveu humiliant pour nous de dire que nous ne pouvons pas tenir tête à une coalition armée de l'Europe. Mais, si jamais une telle coalition venait à se former en dépit de toutes les lois de l'équité et de l'humanité, elle devrait anéantir non-seulement notre flotte et notre armée, mais aussi chasser par la violence les 120,000 Musulmans Crétois, non sans avoir à supporter ce que le désespoir pourrait leur conseiller. Du moment, dis-je en terminant, que nous serions forcés de nous résigner à tout, c'est aux Puissances de réfléchir aux conséquences d'une telle situation.

Son Excellence M. Bourrée, après avoir attentivement écouté ces paroles, que je n'ai pu prononcer sans un sentiment de vive douleur, revint à l'objet de sa démarche, et chercha à m'assurer une nouvelle fois que cette proposition était dictée aux Puissances par leur sincère désir de délivrer la Turquie de ses difficultés actuelles et de servir ses intérêts. Comme ces Puissances, dit-il, n'entendent pas donner à tout prix la Crète à la Grèce, et comme, d'un autre côté, il ne serait pas juste d'exclure *à priori* du programme du plébiscite le vœu de cette annexion, le Gouvernement Impérial pourrait espérer que par le vœu du peuple même, dont un tiers est Musulman, l'idée de l'annexion serait écartée.

J'ai dû, en réponse, réitérer à M. Bourrée les mêmes observations que j'avais déjà développées sur l'inadmissibilité du principe du suffrage pour notre Empire et sur les conséquences.

Là s'est arrêté notre entretien.

Telles ont été, M. l'Ambassadeur, la nature de la démarche Française et la réponse qui lui a été faite par nous. Je dois ajouter que, le surlendemain de la visite de M. Bourrée, les Représentants de l'Autriche, de l'Italie, de la Prusse, et de la Russie sont venus séparément à la Sublime Porte chargés par leurs Gouvernements respectifs de me faire des ouvertures identiques à l'effet d'appuyer, comme ils l'ont dit, la proposition du Cabinet des Tuileries, et j'ai dû leur tenir le même langage, c'est-à-dire, réitérer mot-à-mot ce que j'avais dit à leur collègue de France.

Quoique l'Ambassadeur de France ait déjà communiqué à Paris le résultat de son entretien avec moi, je n'en crois pas moins devoir vous en rendre compte, afin que vous sachiez nos sentiments à l'égard de pareils projets, qui, sous quelque forme que ce soit, ne pourraient être acceptés par le Gouvernement Impérial sans laisser entamer son intégrité territoriale, et sans épuiser tous ses moyens de résistance.

Afin de ne pas laisser la moindre illusion sur notre manière de voir, je vous autorise à donner lecture de cette dépêche à M. le Marquis de Moustier, et nous espérons que son Excellence voudra bien reconnaître les motifs impérieux qui nous défendent d'adopter les plans en question.

Nous sommes persuadés, d'un autre côté, que M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères jugera notre manière de voir avec cette équité qui le caractérise, et que les sentiments bienveillants dont nous le savons animé à l'égard de notre pays lui démontreront plus clairement que je ne pourrais le faire, l'impossibilité absolue dans laquelle nous nous trouvons vis-à-vis de la proposition dont il s'agit.

(Translation.)

April 4, 1867.

EVENTS have unfortunately recently justified the sad presentiment which the Sublime Porte had some time since with regard to the intentions of some of the Powers towards it. But it never thought that they would go so far as to touch upon the question of the integrity of our Empire, a principle whose maintenance up to now had not ceased to be unanimously recognized as an indispensable condition of the balance of power in Europe.

His Excellency M. Bourrée came to see me on Thursday last, the 28th of March, in compliance with an instruction which had been given him by his Government relative to Crete.

The best plan to enable you to appreciate the bearing of this instruction will be for me to relate as faithfully as possible the conversation which took place between the Ambassador of His Majesty the Emperor of the French and myself.

His Excellency began by saying that the interest of all the world required that Turkey should extricate herself from all preoccupations and difficulties imposed on her by Crete. He added that France, in common with some other Powers, was persuaded that the election of the Delegates, lately arrived at Constantinople from Crete, had not taken place under the conditions which were desired, inasmuch as the Delegates were probably chosen among the inhabitants of towns or of districts which are under the influence of the Ottoman authorities, and that consequently they could not, in the eyes of the Government of the Emperor and of the other Powers, be considered as the legitimate representatives of the insular population; that his conversations with some of these Delegates had confirmed him in this opinion; and that then it became necessary to send back these Delegates, who could not have the confidence of their country or of Europe, and to proceed to new elections under the superintendence of foreign Consuls. Also the Government of the Emperor thought that this election should have as a preliminary condition the immediate cessation of hostilities in all parts of the island.

I answered M. Bourrée that in the eyes of the Government of the Sultan the Cretan insurrection, properly so called, was at an end long ago; there was only question now of expelling the foreign adventurers who still maintained themselves in the island, and to blot out the traces of their destructive underhand dealings; that the Cretan subjects of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan had scarcely given in their submission when the Sublime Porte hastened to grant an amnesty, and that, while applying itself to the task of healing the wounds opened by late events, it had commenced to seek for measures that would secure the future of Crete by the establishment of a strong administration calculated to prevent a repetition of these troubles, and to develop the well-being of all the classes of the population of the island. With that view, I continued, the Imperial Government had sent a firman ordering that every district should furnish two or three Mussulman and Christian Delegates summoned to give to the Commission formed for the organization of the administration of the island information concerning local requirements,—a firman whose contents were communicated at the time both to the Missions of the Sultan in Europe and to the great Powers at Constantinople. But in doing this it was far from the intention of the Imperial Government to apply to Crete the principle of universal suffrage, and still less of convoking a Constituent Assembly. The Sublime Porte never intended to abdicate her right to work out the laws to guide the new administration in Crete, and it is for her alone to seek the means to assure the tranquillity and the prosperity of the Cretan population. Consequently the mission of the Delegates demanded of that population is only to explain to the Imperial Government points relative to the condition of their welfare. The declarations of the Imperial Government leave no doubt upon this point; and the mode of selection which has been followed appears entirely calculated to secure this object. The Commission in question was immediately instituted, and the Delegates were called up every time that it was necessary to obtain information. I ended by saying to his Excellency M. Bourrée that there was nothing in this proceeding contrary to the views of the Imperial Government, which are known to all the world, and that nothing more could be done.

But if there was a question of proceeding to these elections by universal suffrage, as it was proposed, the object aimed at would be quite different to that which they had in view. I then asked the French Ambassador what could be the object of the Powers in proposing to us this form.

M. Bourrée answered me that the object of the proposition of the Government of the Emperor was to know the true wishes of the population of Crete: whether it wished for an institution analogous to that of Samos, or desired to make itself a vassal Principality like Moldo-Wallachia and Servia, or to be annexed to Greece. My interlocutor added that Europe did not consider this appeal to the votes of the people as a thing without precedent; that Austria had ceded Venetia, which was in her possession, in this manner, and that perhaps she had reason to regret that she had not done it in time. It is impossible, he said, to oppose to-day the feeling of the population, and every Government is obliged to follow it. In the opinion of the Cabinet of the Tuileries the Ottoman Government, by taking as the basis of its policy the wishes of the population, will save its dignity, will quiet for ever the question of Crete, and will thus be able to act

with much more energy in other parts of Turkey in Europe where troubles might eventually arise. M. Bourrée ended by saying that what the Powers most desired was the maintenance of the Ottoman Empire, and that the advice as to the cession of Crete was a consequence of this desire.

I observed to M. l'Ambassadeur that no matter how great the solicitude of the Powers for the Ottoman Empire might be, it would be admitted that the Sublime Porte knows and appreciates better its own interests, and sees better the dangers which may menace it: that the proposition made to it would be as disastrous in its results as it was in form. Certainly it is not for me, I added, to discuss the merits of universal suffrage to arrive at the wishes of populations, and the results which it has been able to bring about in Europe; but the right of sovereignty is based in the Empire on other legal principles. It is, therefore, quite impossible for the Government of His Majesty the Sultan to allow itself to be despoiled of its rights by popular voting in Crete, which to-morrow might be applied to the whole of the Empire; and it would never consent to execute all that which the populations might ask even at the gates of Constantinople. Then I expressed to the Representative of His Majesty the Emperor the astonishment of the Sublime Porte at seeing the same Powers who consider the maintenance of Turkey indispensable to the balance of power in Europe propose such a course, which, if pursued, would tend to nothing less than gradually to bring on her complete annihilation. The Island of Crete, I continued, cannot be assimilated either to Samos or to the Danubian Principalities, for all these countries are inhabited by a homogeneous population, which has caused them to be granted a special administration. But a district of the same description does not exist in the other parts of the Empire. Crete contains nearly 120,000 Mussulmans to 200,000 Christians; more than half of the soil belongs to the first. It is, therefore, not more impossible to establish a Christian administration in Crete than in any other portion of the Empire. The Sublime Porte, I went on to say, has conceded to its Christian subjects the principle of equality which it now sincerely applies, and which it is determined still to extend. But she does not mean at all that this principle, instead of causing the Christians to participate greatly in the administration of the country, should tend to eradicate the Mussulman element. In thus dilating on this subject I called attention to the gravity of the danger that the proposition in question would entail on the very conditions of our existence; a proposition which the Sublime Porte could not accept without anticipating its own annihilation.

As far as the cession of the Island of Crete to Greece was concerned, I declared frankly to my interlocutor that to obtain that cession it was necessary to have a new Navarino. No Power, I continued, is at this moment strong enough to triumph over the combined forces of the five Powers; it would not be a humiliating avowal for us to make that we could not face an armed coalition of Europe. But if ever such a coalition should be formed in despite of all the laws of equity and humanity, it would have not only to annihilate our fleet and our army, but also to expel by force the 120,000 Cretan Mussulmans, and at the same time have to tolerate that which despair might urge them to. From the moment, I said, finally, that we are forced to resign ourselves to everything, it will be for the Powers to reflect on the consequences entailed by such a state of things.

His Excellency M. Bourreé, after having attentively listened to this language, which it was most painful for me to use, recurred to the object of his instruction, and sought to assure me again that this proposition was dictated by the Powers by their sincere desire to deliver Turkey from her present difficulties, and to serve her interests. As, he said, these Powers do not mean at any cost to give Crete to Greece, and as, on the other hand, it would not be just *à priori* to exclude from the programme of the appeal to the people a vote for that annexation, the Imperial Government would have grounds to hope that even by the vote of the people, one-third of which is Mussulman, the idea of the annexation would be dismissed.

I was obliged, in answer, to reiterate to M. Bourrée the same observations which I had already made on the inadmissibility of the principle of suffrage for our Empire and its consequences.

Our conversation then terminated.

This, M. l'Ambassadeur, is the nature of the French overture, and of the answer which we returned. I must add that two days after the visit of M. de Bourrée, the Representatives of Austria, Italy, Prussia, and of Russia, came separately to the Sublime Porte, charged by their respective Governments to make the same overtures with the view, as they said, of supporting the proposition of the Government of the Tuileries, and I was obliged to hold to them the same language; that is to say, repeat word for word what I had said to their French colleague.

Although the Ambassador of France has already communicated in Paris the result of his conversation with me, I still think it better to give you an account of it, that you may know our sentiments with regard to such projects, which, no matter in what shape, could not be accepted by the Imperial Government without calling in question its territorial integrity, and without exhausting all its means of resistance.

In order to leave no doubt as to our view of the matter, I authorize you to read this despatch to the Marquis de Moustier, and we hope that his Excellency will recognize the imperative motives which forbid us to adopt the plans in question.

We are persuaded, on the other hand, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs will judge of our view of the case with that equity which characterizes him, and that the friendly sentiments which we know him to entertain towards our country, will prove to him more clearly than I can, the absolute impossibility of our accepting the proposition in question.

No. 90.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 15.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, April 9, 1867.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, acquainting me with what passed between your Lordship and Baron Brunnow on that day, on his communicating to you the substance of a despatch from Prince Gortchakoff relative to the suggestion of Russia and other Powers that the Porte should cede Candia to Greece; and I have taken an opportunity of reading to Prince Gortchakoff your report of the observations which you addressed to the Russian Ambassador on these subjects.

With respect to the war in Crete, and your Lordship's statement that the Porte had the same right to put down insurrection in that island as England had in India, or France in Algeria, or Russia in Poland, Prince Gortchakoff seemed to consider that the different creeds of the contending parties in Candia should influence the policy to be adopted towards them; and he proceeded to demonstrate that while the insurrection of the Cretans was justified by their sufferings and grievances, that of the Poles had occurred while they were in the enjoyment of numerous favours and benefits recently bestowed upon them by the Emperor.

I said it was unnecessary to discuss such irrelevant questions, but that Her Majesty's Government are guided by the simple fact that they acknowledge the independence of the Porte, and as they do so they feel bound to act towards Turkey on the same principles which regulate their conduct towards other States. His Excellency repeated his former arguments in favour of the proposed cession of Candia to Greece, and I remarked that we were not likely to be influenced by them.

I added, however, as stated in your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd instant, that though Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to alter the instructions under which Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople is acting, or to concur in pressing the Porte to give up Candia against the inclination of the Sultan, they will not offer any obstacle to the arrangement if spontaneously decided upon by the Porte.

No. 91.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 16.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March 29, 1867.*

I AVAIL myself of the present opportunity to acquaint your Lordship with the recall of the Imperial Commissioner. His Highness is to embark for Constantinople this evening on board the Ottoman war steamer "Pertev," and will be accompanied by his sons Salih and Ali Beys.

General Hussein Pasha is to administer the island, as well as being Commander-in-chief over the land and naval forces.

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing my sincere acknowledgments for the kind consideration I experienced from Mustapha Pasha on several

occasions during the very trying and delicate period of His Highness's government of this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 92.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 16.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March* 30, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 27th instant, stating the result of my first interview with Mr. Sawas, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that that gentleman is to embark for Retimo and Candia the day after to-morrow.

I have furnished Dr. Sawas with a letter of introduction to the Vice-Consul at Candia, as per inclosed copy. I have addressed a similar letter to Mr. Consular-Agent Calocherino at Retimo.

As your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed, I have requested these two Consular officers to give every facility and assistance they may have it in their power to render to Dr. Sawas in the object of his pursuit; to ascertain the measures adopted by the Commissioners within their respective Consular districts; and to state to me the practical results of such measures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 92.

Consul Dickson to Vice-Consul Calocherino.

Sir, *Canea, Crete, March* 30, 1867.

THIS letter will be presented to you by Dr. Sawas, an eminent practitioner of Constantinople, whom the Imperial Government have selected for the purpose of forming here, with Server Effendi, a Commission to ascertain the wants of the suffering Cretan population, and afford the latter relief.

In offering him this introduction, I have to request you will afford every facility and assistance you may have it in your power to render to Dr. Sawas in the object of his pursuit.

It will be your duty to address special reports to me upon the subject of this Relief Commission, and you will be careful to ascertain the measures adopted by the Commissioners within your Vice-Consular District, and to state to me the practical results of such measures.

I am, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 93.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Generalissimo, Omer Pasha, arrived this morning from Constantinople, on board the "Fuadieh," bringing 600 Infantry.

Twelve hundred more troops were also landed to-day at Canea from on board the "Moukhbirisurour" steam frigate.

The "Arkadi" was seen at Suja on the 4th instant, discharging volunteers and provisions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 94.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 19.)

(Extract.) *Athens, April 10, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, copies of two Reports from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra in regard to the latest operations of the blockade-runner "Arkadi," which continues, with the greatest daring and impunity, to land volunteers and cargoes of provisions, ammunition, and supplies of all kinds, in Crete, wherever she pleases.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, April 5, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the "Arkadi," which left Syra on the evening of the 2nd instant, returned here about 4·45 P.M. yesterday, after having landed her cargo and volunteers at Suja, and brought back some families thence, about thirty-five souls (of which eight or ten old men, and the rest women and children), and seven or eight volunteers. The "Arkadi," intending to land at Suja, went hence west of the Island of Crete; and coasting along the south of Selino, when within eight or ten miles of Suja, looking out for a convenient place, reports of cannon were heard about 7 P.M. of the 3rd instant, when they stood out to sea, and saw a Turkish vessel proceeding along the coast westward; and having allowed the latter to pass, the "Arkadi" stood in direct to Suja, which she reached two hours later, namely, about 9 P.M. Here they found, on arrival, a son of Krearis, who had been landed at Rhodakina by the "Arkadi" on her preceding voyage. He reported that when the "Arkadi" went away from Rhodakina, leaving there a boat loaded with ammunition, he with three others immediately got possession of it, and navigated it direct to Suja; that the "Arkadi" had arrived most *à propos*, as provisions had already begun to fail there in Selino; that the Turkish vessel just gone on to the westward had been endeavouring to persuade the natives to come on board to be taken to Greece, and had bombarded the coast all along, when the Turks found the natives were not to be deceived; that consequently there were few families on the coast now, the greater part having fled to the interior. It was about 1·30 A.M. of the 4th when the "Arkadi" had finished landing without interruption; and taking on board the few families that had collected while there, she returned direct to Syra yesterday afternoon without meeting any cruizers, unless at a very great distance.

It is reported here that Hussein Pasha will shortly attack the district of Sfakia by sea and land.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, April 7, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Greek steamer "Arkadi," which left this yesterday morning at about 9·30 A.M. with clothes, provisions, ammunition, and some ten volunteers, has just returned, having successfully landed everything at Bali, of Melopotamo. She arrived there at about 9·30 P.M., and remained till about 1 A.M. of this day. While discharging cargo a Turkish steamer passed, going from east to west, but apparently did not see the "Arkadi." On leaving Bali, however, the "Arkadi" was met by a steamer, supposed to be the "Ismaila," which fired a rocket and burnt a blue light. The "Arkadi" did not reply, but continued her course, and was pursued by the Turkish vessel, which, however, did not fire at the "Arkadi," and was lost sight of after one hour's chase.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

P.S. 3·30 P.M.—I have just been informed that Phodili is the place where the "Arkadi" discharged; that it was so dark it was impossible to distinguish if the vessel that chased the "Arkadi" was a screw or paddle, a two or a one-funnelled vessel; and

that it was only by seeing a light occasionally, after half-an-hour in the opposite direction to that the "Arkadi" was going, the "Arkadi" was aware of the chase being continued.

ST. V. L.

No. 95.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 19.)

My Lord, *Athens, April* 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith the extract of a letter which I have received this morning from Mr. Consul Dickson.

Lieutenant Murray, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," writing on the 8th instant, says:—

"Mr. Dickson will have told you of the fight we had here on the 2nd . . . . . A petty officer on leave from this vessel saw two heads brought into town, and an Austrian escort going to Suda met a party with some hands and ears. I believe the Austrian and French Consuls have remonstrated with the Governor, but remonstrance is of little avail where Irregulars are concerned. Aali Pasha has retreated to Spilia, near Gonia; and Mehmed Pasha seems to have his hands full in Apokorona. Zimbrakaki and Hadji Michali are near an old Venetian fortress behind Kiriaki Monastery, they say, preparing to make another descent on the water . . . . . The whole island is in a high state of insurrection . . . . . The Viceroy of Egypt appears to have stopped the supplies of his troops here. Three steamers have arrived without anything but despatches. The Egyptian Admiral says that the Turkish authorities have been in the habit of taking possession of all the provisions and stores on their arrival for the use of their own troops . . . . . A few nights ago the 'Taliah' mistook one of their own gun-boats for the 'Arkadi,' and ran into her, doing much damage to both vessels."

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 95.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, April* 9, 1867, 3 P.M.

I HAVE also received this moment, from M. G. Calocherino, of Retimo, a Report of which I have no time to send a translation, as the steamer is about starting, but I will do so by the next mail.

He says that on the 28th an engagement took place at St. John Kaliskhia, between 5,000 Turks and some 3,000 Cretans, inc uding (they say) 500 foreign volunteers. The latter, I hear from another source, were directed by Coroneos, Petropoulakis, &c. The said village of St. John was sacked, &c., by the troops.

On the 31st, another fight at Ambelaki, which lasted eight hours. Ottoman casualties, 100; Christian, 30.

Turks also sacked and committed other excesses at Gonia, on the same day.

Please to communicate above intelligence to Lord Lyons and Lord Stanley, pending the receipt of fuller accounts by next mail.

No. 96.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 19.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 8, 1867.

THE Serdar Ekrem Omer Pasha called upon me the day before yesterday to take leave of me on his departure for Crete.

He said that with the troops already in the island, and with the reinforcements about to be sent, he believed that he should have ample means of suppressing the insurrection completely and in a short time. He observed that too much had been demanded of the fleet; that it was vain to expect from the Ottoman navy such services as might be performed by English or French ships of war, but that he conceived that by limiting the area of the operations of the Ottoman cruizers, he should be able to obtain effectual

assistance from them. He believed that the army had great confidence in him; that, for his own part, he was convinced that no better soldiers were to be found than the Turks, and that all they required was to be properly commanded. He trusted that he should still be protected by God, as he had hitherto been throughout his military career.

I said to Omer Pasha that I felt sure that he regarded his mission to Crete as one of humanity. I dwelt at some length upon the sufferings which the insurrection had brought upon the inhabitants, and called the Pasha's attention especially to the misery endured by the destitute women and children. I expressed a hope that he would do all in his power to assist the endeavours which were being made by Dr. Sawas to provide food and shelter for these unhappy persons. I urged that he could in no way better serve the Porte than by putting an end to the distresses of the innocent sufferers by the insurrection.

Omer Pasha assured me that he was well aware of this; that he should take every possible means to prevent his military operations from being injurious to non-combatants, and that I might feel perfectly confident that all that depended upon him would be done to relieve the sufferings of the women and children, and to prevent any further injury to persons or property. The object of his mission was to re-establish peace, order, and prosperity, and to enable the Porte to carry out its liberal and benevolent intentions respecting the future government of the island.

Omer Pasha sailed for Crete on the afternoon of the same day (the 6th instant).

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 97.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 20, 1867.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 8th instant, giving an account of a conversation which you had held with Omer Pasha previous to his departure for Crete; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve the language held by you to the Ottoman Commander-in-chief, with the object of inducing him to take effectual measures to alleviate the distress now prevalent in that island, and to preserve non-combatants from suffering during the continuance of hostilities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 98.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 20.)

(Extract.) *Paris, April* 19, 1867.

WHILE I was with M. de Moustier yesterday, his Excellency adverted again to the affairs of the East. Lamenting the abstention of Her Majesty's Government from the efforts lately made by the other Great Powers to obtain a cessation of hostilities in Candia, and to procure the consent of the Porte to consult the wishes of the people of that island, his Excellency said that such abstention must paralyse all further efforts of those Powers to do good, as it excited the suspicions of the Porte as to their intentions. His Excellency then asked whether Her Majesty's Government could not be brought to join in a proposal to the Porte of a less extended character, namely, to suspend all hostilities in Candia, and to consent to the mission to that island of a joint Commission of the great Powers to inquire into the alleged grievances of the people.

I said that I would of course report his Excellency's wishes to your Lordship, but I observed, with regard to a cessation of hostilities, it would appear that these hostilities were now chiefly carried on by foreigners, and that it could hardly be expected that the Porte would consent to a truce towards foreign invaders of its territory, and as to the sending a Commission I remarked that it would be a direct interference with the sovereign power of the Sultan.

No. 99.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 20, 1867.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language that you held to M. de Moustier, as reported in your despatch of the 19th of April on the subject of the affairs of Crete.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 100.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 5, 1867.

EARLY on the morning of the 2nd instant the inhabitants of this city were alarmed by the report of continued musket-firing in the neighbourhood. In fact, a body of 1,500, more or less, Cretan insurgents and foreign volunteers had made an onslaught on two Turkish pickets that were guarding the passes leading to the mainspring by which Canea is supplied with water, and which gushes out of the low mountain ridge just above the picturesque village of Perivolia, less than three miles distant from Canea.

The authorities having been apprized in time by a Cretan spy of the threatened attack, had taken their measures accordingly, and two battalions of Turco-Egyptian regulars had by midday already marched hence and repulsed the assailants on the spot.

The latter were commanded by Captains Hadji Mikhalis and Kriaris. Mavroyenis (also a Cretan) was said to have been present likewise.

The attack may probably have been intended to draw off the fire of Ali Riza Pasha's army, which, I believe, has not yet effectively forced the valley of Ennea-Khoria, in view of occupying Selinos district.

The casualties are conjecturally reckoned at thirty on the insurgent side, with about as many Turks. An Albanian irregular brought during the day into this city the beardless long-moustached head of a foreign volunteer, wrapped up in a bag. Two more heads, paraded about on spikes, were seen by a stoker of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard." This revolting spectacle was soon put an end to by the timely interference of the authorities.

In consequence of such stubborn and protracted resistance on the part of the Cretans, great irritation is evinced by the military and Mussulmans in general towards the whole Christian population.

The "Arkadi," it is asserted, has made another weekly trip, and landed at Rodakina in St. Vassili, on or about the 30th ultimo, a further batch of volunteers, some provisions, &c. An Englishman, correspondent for one of the daily London journals, is also stated to have come.

The Russian despatch-boat "Taman" entered Canea port on the 3rd; afterwards the "Grand Admiral" steamed out for the Piræus.

I regret to announce the breaking out of typhoid fever in this city and its neighbourhood. The Arab troops are suffering severely from this epidemic and swelling the list of deaths in the Egyptian contingent.

It is computed that nearly one-sixth of the whole of this force, originally 24,000, must have already perished from sickness and the enemy since their first arrival in Crete.

Dr. Sawas, with his Excellency Hussein Pasha, have not yet returned from Retimo and Candia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 101.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 26.)

(Extract.) *Athens, April* 17, 1867.

THE French gun-boat "Salamandre" has just arrived at the Piræus, and brought me a letter from Mr. Consul Dickson of yesterday's date, which, however, contains no news whatever: he says, "Omer Pasha is here still, and will not set out until Bairam is

over. Like a prudent General he keeps his plans to himself, and nothing definite can be known as to his forthcoming campaign. The 'Tyrian' is just in."

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting the sixth successful voyage to Crete of the blockade-runner "Arkadi."

I have been shown a letter dated the 3rd instant, written by an Italian officer who has recently joined the insurgents under Petropoulaki and Korakos in the province of Retimo, which takes a somewhat despondent view of the prospects of the insurrection. These chiefs, he says, are honest, well-meaning men, but too old and inactive for the severe mountain warfare in which they are engaged. In spite of all that has been done to supply the insurgents with arms, he describes them as still quite unfit to cope with regular troops. Their guns are mostly without bayonets, they have no artillery, the Turks occupy all the positions which command the plain of Messara and the communications with the Eastern provinces; and, above all, the people have latterly been so buoyed up by the delusive hope of foreign intervention that they cannot be induced to expose themselves to the risk of defeat by a serious attack upon the Turkish forces; and even when attacked they content themselves with skirmishing at a safe distance, and then retiring to the most inaccessible positions in the mountains.

This is the account of an enthusiastic partizan of the insurgent cause, who had only recently landed in Crete and has as yet seen nothing of the western insurgents, but I believe it may be relied upon as truthful.

P.S.—April 18. Since this despatch was written I have received a letter from Lieutenant Murray, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," of which an extract is inclosed herewith.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, April* 13, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the "Arkadi," which again left Syra for Crete with provisions and ammunition on Wednesday the 10th instant, about half-past 7 P.M., returned to Syra yesterday evening. She went hence to Preveli of Agios Bassilios, where she arrived at about 8 P.M., and having discharged the whole of her cargo, left at about half-past 11 P.M. She also touched, I am told, at Kerami and Damnoni, both of Agios Bassilios, for families, in case any should be prepared to come away, but none being ready on the coast, and two or three hours being required to collect them, the "Arkadi" came away, and returned to Syra without meeting with any Turkish cruizers.

The absence of the Turkish cruizers, I believe, may be attributed to want of coal, but I learn that considerable quantities are now arriving in Suda Bay from Malta.

The "Arkadi" reports that the Cretans were on the point of attacking the Turks in the neighbourhood of Dibaki of Pyrgotisa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Lieutenant Murray, R.N., to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, April* 13, 1867

IT is very sad, to say the least of it, to see another campaign commenced against these wretched people; but, however, under the new régime it will be conducted in a more orderly manner.

Omer Pasha, if ready, takes the field on Tuesday (16th). He proposes attacking Sfakia by Omalos, as well as by the Pass of Krapi, which is, I think, a mistake, as the Omalos Pass is impassable for artillery and almost so for troops, and it also divides his forces, which are much too small already.

The Cretans are gathering in large numbers, and with great confidence for the final struggle, and I can scarcely believe that Omer Pasha will accomplish with half the number of men what his predecessor failed in, with his local knowledge and knowledge of the manners of the people. Mustapha Pasha fought his way through once, but they must not expect the experiment to be repeated. About 4,000 Cretan Mussulman

volunteers have been enrolled for service. They are to receive regular pay—two months to be given in advance; and are to be subject to military discipline. . . .

The French Consul is going to leave us, having been appointed to Trebizonde.

. . . . I think it will be a very great pity if Crete is annexed to Greece: the Cretans will never be content with the government of Greece, and as sure as they get what they at present want, they will, when the novelty wears off, create fresh disturbances. Every Greek and Cretan here, who is not carried away by enthusiasm, would sooner see autonomy than annexation.

Omer Pasha is a great change for the better, *i. e.,* as regards his predecessor Mustapha. He has returned all the Consuls' visits in person; he also speaks French, Italian and German. He says that at a Council of Ministers, presided over by the Sultan, it was determined to put down the insurrection at any cost; after which substantial reforms were to be introduced. A volcano, however, is a difficult thing to quench. I think that if Omer Pasha gains some advantages over the insurgents, so as to retrieve their honour, the Porte will be much more likely to listen to the proposals of autonomy for Crete.

No. 102.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 26.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 16, 1867.

THE Russian Minister here, General Ignatieff, spoke to me on several recent occasions of petitions addressed to the Consuls of the foreign Powers in Crete, to protest against the Deputies who had gone to Constantinople being considered as Representatives of the Cretan people, to declare that the Cretan National Commission or Provisional Government was the only Representative of the people, and to demand that a general vote on the future lot of the country should be taken under the superintendence of the Consuls. General Ignatieff mentioned also a letter addressed by the Provisional Government of Crete to the Consuls, and other papers, and said that the originals of all these documents were in his hands.

I told General Ignatieff that neither the Porte nor any one that I knew of, affected to consider the Delegates who had come here as constituting a representative body. They had simply been summoned to give the Porte information on local matters; and whether or no the petitions represented the real feelings of the Cretans, it was clear that nothing was easier than to draw up such documents and append to them any number of signatures. I observed that in the matter of the Cretan insurrection, Her Majesty's Government had desired to observe the rules of international law, and to treat the Ottoman Government as it would treat, under similar circumstances, the Government of any other friendly State; and that consequently Her Majesty's Government had not authorized Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte to enter into communication with the Provisional Government of Crete or its adherents. Such being the case, I had no grounds for taking cognizance of the papers he mentioned.

General Ignatieff said that he could not subject himself to the reproach of keeping back such papers, and that he should therefore send them to me, *officieusement*, for my perusal. He accordingly sent a Secretary of his Legation here the day before yesterday, who left the papers and French translations of them with Her Majesty's Secretary of Embassy. I have sent them back without comment.

I inclose herewith for your Lordship's information copies of the French translations. A glance at the original petitions suffices to show that the names affixed to them have not been all signed by the supposed petitioners with their own hands. In fact large numbers of consecutive signatures (sometimes thirty or forty or more) are apparently in the same handwriting. It is to be presumed, however, that many Cretans are unable to write themselves, and the individuals by whom the signatures were written may have more or less conscientiously confined themselves to signing the names of real persons acquainted with the contents of the petition and desirous of having their names subscribed to it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 102.

Identic Protests addressed to the Consuls by four Districts of Crete, and bearing, that of Retimo, 943 signatures; that of Aghios Vissilios, 1,443; that of Kzdonies, 1,449; that of Apocorona, 2,284.

DEPUIS l'arrivée de Server Effendi dans notre pays, l'autorité Turque prétend avoir changé de manière d'agir, qu'elle est devenue humaine, honnête et libérale, c'est du moins ce que disent ses Commissaires et ses Pachas dans leurs Proclamations au peuple Crétois, aux Musulmans et non-Musulmans, ainsi que s'exprime la lettre du Sultan.

En réalité cette autorité n'est devenue que plus dure et plus tyrannique. Le pays retentit des atrocités commises par ses troupes. La présence du soldat Turque est le symbole du brigandage et du meurtre, de l'incendie et de la violence.

Le Gouvernement prétend qu'il n'y a en Crète que bien peu d'insurgés, quelques étrangers, et des brigands.

Alors ceux qui à tout moment sont maltraités par ses soldats, les faibles et les desarmés, que sont-ils?

A ces populations faibles et sans défense, à ceux qui dès le commencement de la lutte se sont trouvés cernés par les troupes, l'autorité, comme preuve de ce qu'elle avance, demande des Représentants qui iraient à Constantinople dire qu'ils désapprouvent l'insurrection, qu'ils ne veulent pas de la liberté, ni de l'union à la Grèce; pour arriver à ses fins cette autorité oblige quelques individus d'accepter le mandat, fait rediger ses suppliques fausses ou arrachées par la force.

Nous protestons contre ces actes arbitraires et cruels. Nous déclarons que si dans notre district il se trouve quelque Hellène Crétois qui soit forcé d'aller à Constantinople, nous ne le reconnaissons en aucune façon comme notre Représentant et nous désavouons d'avance ses actes.

Nous répétons de nouveau qu'à l'exception de nos Députés faisant partie de l'Assemblée Générale, nous n'en reconnaissons point d'autres, que cette Assemblée représente notre conscience et notre volonté libre, que sa volonté et sa décision est notre volonté et notre décision; comme, par exemple, dans sa protestation du 20 Juillet, sa déclaration du 20 Août, par laquelle elle dépose l'autorité du Sultan, celle du 2 Septembre proclamant la lutte nationale et générale.

Nous prions MM. les Consuls de consentir à ce que notre vote soit recueilli sous leur surveillance pour que tous nous puissions librement exprimer notre vœu.

(Translation.)

SINCE the arrival of Server Effendi in our country, the Turkish authorities pretend to have changed their mode of proceeding, and to have become humane, honourable, and liberal,—at least that is what their Commissioners and Pashas say in their Proclamations to the Cretan people, Mussulman and non-Mussulman, as the Sultan's letter expresses itself.

In reality, these authorities have only become more severe and tyrannical. The country resounds with atrocities committed by their troops. The presence of the Turkish soldiery is the symbol of brigandage, murder, fire, and violence.

The Government pretends that there are in Crete only very few insurgents, some foreigners, and brigands.

Then what are the weak and unarmed, who are every moment being ill-treated by their soldiers?

Of these weak and defenceless populations, of those who, from the beginning of the struggle, have found themselves surrounded by the troops, the authorities, by way of proving what they advance, demand Representatives who shall go to Constantinople and say that they disapprove of the insurrection, that they do not wish for liberty, or for the union with Greece; to attain their ends these authorities force a few individuals to accept the mission, and cause their supplications, which are false or wrung from them by violence, to be taken down in writing.

We protest against these arbitrary and cruel acts. We declare that if, in our district, any Cretan Greek is forced to proceed to Constantinople, we will not in any way recognize him as our representative, and we disown his actions beforehand.

We again repeat, that we recognize no deputies but those who are members of the General Assembly; that that Assembly represents our conscience and free-will; that its will and decision is our will and decision; as, for instance, in its protest of the 20th of

July, its declaration of the 20th of August, by which it throws off the Sultan's authority, and that of the 2nd of September, proclaiming the national and general struggle.

We beg the Consuls to consent to our votes being collected under their superintendence, so that we may all be able freely to express our wishes.

Inclosure 2 in No. 102.

Petition of Cretan Provisional Government to Foreign Consuls.

Comitades, le 22 *Mars*, 1867.

A L'OCCASION de la lettre autographe ci-incluse des chefs de bandes et des notables du village Askyfou, du district de Sphakia, nous venons renouveler nos instances et implorer l'humanité de vos hauts Gouvernements et les sentiments généreux de vos pays pour que des vaisseaux des Gouvernements Chrétiens viennent recueillir les familles des habitants d'Askyfou, ainsi que de ceux qui dès l'abord, voulant soustraire leurs familles à la cruauté des Turcs, les avaient rassemblées sur les côtes basses des Provinces Méridionales.

Les rivages de Sphakia, MM. les Consuls, celles d'Aghios Vassilios et de Messara jusqu'au couvent de Toplou, sont remplis d'enfants nus, affamés, exposés au feu des croisières Ottomanes. Une quantité de pétitions plus anciennes que nous avons entre les mains constatent des faits lamentables.

Nous plaçons ci-près une lettre sur les derniers exploits des Turcs dans le district de Rethymo comme une nouvelle preuve du degré de férocité dont ils sont capables.

Ce ne sont pas malheureusement des exaggérations, les victimes survivent misérablement.

Vous n'ignorez pas, MM. les Consuls, que ranimés par les rayons vivifians du soleil d'été les Crétois ont manifesté leur résolution inébranlable de recommencer une lutte plus acharnée que jamais contre leurs oppresseurs.

Les sentiments de la nature, du devoir, imposent à un chef de famille, l'obligation de mettre des vieux parents, ses enfants, sa femme à couvert du champ de bataille.

Mais en cas d'impossibilité de remplir un devoir aussi sacré, le Crétois n'hésitera pas d'entrainer sa famille dans les hasards de la lutte et de rendre celle-ci plus glorieuse encore et plus nationale.

(Suivent les signatures et le cachet du Gouvernement Provisoire.)

(Translation.)

Comitades, March 22, 1867.

ON receipt of the inclosed autograph letter from the chiefs of bands and the leading men of the village of Askyfos, in the district of Sfakia, we renew our prayers, and petition the humanity of your august Governments, and the generous feelings of your countries, for the dispatch hither of vessels from Christian Governments to take off the families of the inhabitants of Askyfos, as well as those who, wishing to save their families from the cruelties of the Turks, had, from the beginning, collected them on the low coasts of the Southern Provinces.

The shores of Sfakia, gentlemen, those of Aghios Vassilios and of Messara, as far as the convent of Toplou, are filled with naked children, starving and exposed to the fire of Ottoman cruizers. A number of petitions of older date, which we have in our hands, relate lamentable facts.

We inclose herewith a letter respecting the recent exploits of the Turks in the district of Retimo, as a fresh proof the amount of ferocity of which they are capable.

Unfortunately they are not exaggerations; the victims have survived miserably.

You are aware, gentlemen, that the Cretans, revived by the refreshing rays of the summer sun, have shown their firm resolve to recommence a more deadly struggle than ever with their oppressors.

The feelings of nature and of duty impose on the head of a family the obligation of placing his aged parents, his children and his wife, in a place of refuge away from the battle-field.

But when it is impossible to fulfil a duty so sacred, the Cretan will not hesitate to

drag his family with him into the dangers of the struggle, and to make the latter still more glorious and national.

(Follow the signatures and seal of the Provisional Government.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 102.

Letter addressed by J. Phassoulaki to the Provisional Government of Crete.

Polis, le 20 *Mars,* 1867.

AU sujet des deux derniers engagements nous vous annonçons que . . . . on nous avait écrit que les Turcs préparaient une expédition et devaient s'emparer de quelques villages ; nous en donnâmes immédiatement avis. Ainsi à peine les troupes étaient-elles à Aghi Janni que déjà tous les capitaines étaient réunis, et qu'avec l'aide de Dieu nous fumes les repousser et poursuivre jusqu'à la première heure de la nuit. Selon les nouvelles qui nous sont parvenues les Turcs ont ramené à Rétimo plusieurs blessés ; ici il a été trouvé jusqu'à douze morts : pour nous, nous n'avons eu que deux blessés. Ce que nous pouvons vous dépeindre ce sont les profanations des Eglises, la destruction et la souilleure des images, les meurtres, les viols, et le pillage—toutes choses dont j'ai été témoin oculaire. Sur les événements d'aujourd'hui je ne suis pas encore à même de vous donner des détails.

(Translation.)

Polis, March 20, 1867.

WITH regard to the two last engagements we announce to you that . . . . we were informed that the Turks were preparing an expedition, and were about to take possession of some villages ; we immediately gave notice of this. So that the troops had scarcely reached Aghi Janni before all the chiefs were assembled, and, by the help of God, we were enabled to repulse them and pursue them till nightfall. According to news which has reached us, the Turks carried back to Retimo several wounded men ; here as many as twelve were found dead ; on our side, we only had two men wounded. All we can picture to you is the profanation of churches, the destruction and the defilement of images, murders, rapes, and pillage,—of all of which I have myself been an eye-witness. Of the events of this date I am not yet in a position to give you any details.

Inclosure 4 in No. 102.

Proclamation of the Kaimakam Pasha of the Province of Heraclée in Crete.

Le 9 *Février,* 1867.

CONFORMEMENT au Firman Impérial qui nous a été dernièrement communiqué, et qui ordonne l'envoi à Constantinople d'un homme honnête par district, vous élirez à cet effet George Pergarité de Melamba et me l'envoyez avec le procès-verbal signé par vous.

Je les attends et n'admettrai aucune excuse.

[L'exactitude comme copie de la pièce traduite est confirmée par la signature.—Le Comite General de Crete.]

(Translation.)

February 9, 1867.

IN conformity with the Imperial Firman which was recently communicated to us, and which orders that a respectable man be sent to Constantinople by the district, you will choose for this purpose George Pergarité, of Melamba, and send him to me with the procès-verbal signed by you.

I am awaiting them, and will admit of no excuse.

[The correctness of this copy of the translated passage is confirmed by the signature.—The General Committee of Crete.]

No. 103.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 26.)

My Lord, *Paris, April* 25, 1867.

BARON BUDBERG informed me to-day that another attempt would be made collectively, by the Powers who had individually advised the Porte to consult the population of Candia as to their future lot, with the same object in view.

His Excellency added, that his Government had learnt with great satisfaction that your Lordship had determined that one of the Secretaries of Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople should proceed to Candia at the same time as a joint Commission of the other Powers, for the purpose of inquiring into the grievances of the Candiots.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 104.

*Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.**

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 26, 1867.

BARON BRUNNOW left in my hands to-day a short memorandum, in which, after adverting to his having, by order of his Government, called the attention of Her Majesty's Government some time back to the serious character of the events which were passing in Candia, he goes on to say, that looking to the reports, which reach the Imperial Government, of the barbarous character which the contest in that island has assumed, the Russian Government, in concert with the Powers who desire to put a stop to the effusion of blood, insists upon the necessity of steadily persevering in its efforts to put an end to calamities of a contest which has become an object of common solicitude to the Christian world.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 105.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, April* 26, 1867.

IN reply to your despatch of the 25th instant, I have to state to your Excellency that Lord Lyons was specially ordered not to associate our Secretary with Commissioners of other Powers; and the plan of sending him in any way has been postponed out of deference to the wishes of the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 106.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 29.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 11, 1867.

IN my despatch of the 30th ultimo I reported the departure of Dr. Sawas for Retimo and Candia. Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino, replying to my letter by Dr. Sawas, adds, that this gentleman had arrived at Retimo on the 5th instant in company with Hussein Pasha; that a Commission had been formed in that town for the relief of the poor and in a sanitary point of view, and that Dr. Sawas, moreover, was counselling the Cretan Christians, who had sought refuge within Retimo town, that they might now return to ther villages, remain quiet, and that some hospital huts would be built for their benefit.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Candia, reporting the appointment of a Relief Commission by direction of Dr. Sawas, who, it would appear, also intended making a tour of inspection in the interior of that province.

* A similar despatch was addressed to Sir A. Buchanan.

Server Effendi has, in like manner, created a Relief Commission in this city to consist of three Christian and as many Mussulman Members, and to be presided over by him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 106.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, April* 8, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th ultimo, presented to me by Dr. Sawas, whom the Imperial Government have selected for the purpose of forming, in this island, with Server Effendi, a Commission to ascertain the wants of the suffering Cretan population and afford the latter relief.

I observe also, Sir, you request me to afford every facility and assistance to Dr. Sawas, and to address special reports to you upon the subject of this Relief Commission, and to state to you the practical results of the measures adopted by the Commissioners within my Vice-Consular district, and with great pleasure I shall follow your instructions.

Hussein Pasha, the Governor-General, accompanied by Dr. Sawas, arrived here on the 2nd instant, and on the following day I paid a visit to his Excellency and to Dr. Sawas. On the 4th instant, the latter presented to me your despatch above-mentioned, and informed me of the formation of a Relief Commission here composed of three Turkish and as many Christian Commissioners.

I expressed to Dr. Sawas my desire to afford every facility and assistance I may have it in my power to render to him in the object of his pursuit.

Dr. Sawas informed me also that he was to leave the same day with his Excellency Hussein Pasha for Retimo, and, after a few days, he intended to call again here to make a tour for inspection in the districts of Malevisi, Temenos, Messara, Amari, and Agios Vassilios, in which districts exists the greatest number of the suffering population.

After the departure of his Excellency Hussein Pasha with Dr. Sawas, the Relief Commission has been occupied in drawing up lists of the suffering Turkish and Christian population of this town.

I expressed to Dr. Sawas, during his short stay here, my opinion, that it is of the greatest necessity to take energetic measures for cleaning the streets of this town, which are in a very bad state, and on account of which the inhabitants of this district are subjected to suffer from contagious illness in the summer time; and Dr. Sawas promised that after his return here he will take this matter also under his consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 107.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 13, 1867.

ON the 10th instant, Omer Pasha, in a circular addressed to each of the Consuls, was pleased to announce his Highness' appointment as Governor-General and Commander-in-chief over this island.

In the course of the day, his Excellency Hussein Pasha having embarked on board the "Fuadiyeh" left for Janina.

Admiral Moustapha Pasha has since also taken his departure for Constantinople in the steam-frigate "Moukhbiri-Surour." Vice-Admiral Ibrahim Pasha retains the command of this naval station.

Omer Pasha has signified his intention of striking a decisive blow at the insurrection, but at the same time to use the utmost forbearance towards the insurgents during the continuance of the warfare, as may be compatible with civilized practice. The Cretan irregulars are being embodied to be subjected to regular discipline, armed with the rifled-musket, and commanded by officers of the regular army. They are also to receive two months' pay in advance. Of these troops, the Provinces of Canea and Retimo are each to furnish a contingent of 1,000, that of Candia 1,500. Preparations are being likewise

actively made for the approaching campaign, which, according to report, is to be directed against Spakia. The Generalissimo will in all probability take the chief command, and set out next week, immediately after the Courban Bairam. Meanwhile, the Cretan insurgents and foreign volunteers are stated to be mustering in force at Omalos. Two battalions marched out of Kissamos Castelli last night for Alikianee.

The so-called Cretan "Provisional Government" have issued a Proclamation dated 27th ultimo, from Vouves in Sphakia, to their Mussulman fellow-countrymen. The latter are thereby invited in conciliatory terms to join the insurrectionary movement, being promised at the restoration of peace a new order of things.

It further states that a just and permanent form of government shall be provided, under which Mohammedans and Christians alike may live happily, every security being guaranteed to the creed, as well as the lives and property of the former, &c.

The "Arkadi" after effecting another disembarkation at Phodeles Bay on the 6th was chased on its return to Greece by the "Ismaileh" cruizer, but without success, owing to the superior speed of the former.

The inclosed translation is of a letter from Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino containing a short account of the late engagements at Kallisikian, Kuselianà, and Armenos in Retimo province.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, April 6, 1867.*

WITH reference to my last letter of the 17th ultimo I have the honour to report that matters are becoming more serious than they were twenty days ago. On the 24th, the band of Cretan Turks styled Zurida (literally "weasel," an epithet usually given to such marauding parties) killed five Christians at Atzipades, a village in the district of St. Vassili, as these persons were returning home, after having been occupied in picking olives.

On the 28th, 5,000 regular and irregular troops, having left this town, marched towards the villages of St. John Kaïmenon-Kallisikian and Kuselianà, when an encounter ensued with a party of insurgents. Some ten men were killed on both sides. The said village of St. John was subsequently sacked by the Turks.

The combatants now retreated from the scene of action, the Christians proceeding to the mountains of St. Vassili, the Turks to Ambelaki in Retimo district. As the irregulars were making towards this town on the 31st with a quantity of booty, a sharp engagement took place between them and 3,000 armed Christians at Ambelaki and Armenos, lasting about eight hours.

It is said that, between killed and wounded, there must have been 100 on the part of the Turks, with about thirty Christians. One chief of the latter was wounded. At Armenos the insurgents were driven away by the same Turks who, as above stated, had cut down the trees, &c. Here, again, the casualties on each side numbered ten.

On that same day, the Bashi-Bazouks descended into the village of Mikra-Gonia, and committed the following outrages: they ripped the dresses of women from the neck downwards, searching their persons and robbing what they could; they murdered a Christian who happened to be unarmed and in his own house; they plundered other houses and carried off several heads of cattle and whatever else they could lay their hands upon, &c. Similar acts of violence were committed on an adjoining village.

The Pasha has ordered the chiefs of the Cretan irregulars to send in a list of all those who may desire to serve with the army; that they will be regularly paid, and placed under command of military officers appointed by Government.

Armed Cretan Turks are daily going out; they cut down trees and carry into town thousands of horse-loads of wood, besides doing considerable damage to the corn fields.

An Ottoman steamer brought in tow yesterday morning a Hellenic vessel, which, having been searched, was found to be laden with skins for being filled with oil.

A Firman has been read to-day respecting Hussein Pasha's appointment. It is further ordered not to permit such of the Cretan Turks whose names have not been registered by the authority to quit the city armed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 108.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 2.)

(Extract.) *Florence, April* 26, 1867.

COUNT CAMPELLO mentioned to me a day or two ago that the Italian Government had been invited to take part in a collective recommendation to the Turkish Government to cede Candia to Greece.

I said I had no official information on the subject; but I should be greatly surprised to learn that Her Majesty's Government had joined in any such step; and I asked whether the Italian Government had come to a decision as to accepting or declining the invitation.

Count Campello replied that, having joined in the former representation, it was scarcely possible to decline the present one.

Count Campello said he would take this into consideration; and I have reason to believe that in the Council of Ministers he advocated the view I had taken, but was overruled by his colleagues; and I learnt from him to-day that the question was considered to have been so far prejudged by the late Administration, when they joined in the former representation with regard to Candia, that it was now impossible to decline to take part in the present one.

M. Campello, having declared that the Italian Government had no intention of allowing themselves to be led to join in anything like pressure upon the Porte, in the event of the advice not being followed, I asked to be allowed to suggest that, if this resolution were at once expressed to the other Powers, it might hereafter be found beneficial, and perhaps prevent the question from arising.

No. 109.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 2.)

My Lord, *Florence, April* 28, 1867.

M. RATTAZZI, in speaking to me this morning of the affairs of Candia, intimated that, although he had been unable to decline joining in the collective Representation to be made to the Porte, he doubted whether he would himself have consented to associate the Italian Government in the original advice for the cession of the island which had entailed this second step.

I observed that what is now to be done is, to avoid being led any further; and upon this point M. Rattazzi gave me the most satisfactory assurances.

I suggested to him also the expediency of communicating this decision to the other parties to the collective Representation.

M. Rattazzi said that, in authorizing the Italian Minister at Constantinople to join in the Representation, he had been careful to limit the authority to the event of all the Representatives of the four other Powers being desired to take part in it.

If any one of the four were to abstain, the Italian Minister would do so likewise.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 110.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 4.)

My Lord, *Athens, April* 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a copy of a despatch and of its inclosure from Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting the latest intelligence from Crete received at Syra.

I inclose likewise a translation of the bulletin issued this morning by the Central Cretan Commission here, which announces the appointment of M. Demetrios Marvocordatos as Governor of Crete by the insurrectionary Government.

M. Mavrocordatos is one of the most estimable men I know in Greece. He at one time held the office of Minister of Public Instruction in this country, and has been Nomarch, or Governor, of Corfu.

Major Dickay, an American officer who was desirous of joining the insurgents in

Crete, has been compelled to return to Syra, not having been allowed to land at Canea from the Austrian steamer, on the plea that he was not provided with a passport.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 110.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, April* 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Russian Government steamer "Taman"—arrived here from Canea this morning, *en route* for Constantinople—has brought here M. Maridaki, the Cretan Deputy, who refused to go to Constantinople, and took refuge in the American Consulate, near Canea, and who reports that Omer Pasha is about to attack the Sphakiotes, which latter are fully prepared, having destroyed their houses, buried the materials, tiles, timber, &c., and taken the women and children into the deepest recesses of the mountains of Sphakia and Ida.

Inclosure 2 in No. 110.

Bulletin of the Athens Central Cretan Committee.

(Translation.) *Athens, April* 24, 1867.

OUR news from Crete is to the 23rd instant. On the 18th instant our people engaged the forces under Mehemet Pasha at Kalives, in Apocorona, which engagement was disastrous to the enemy, 250 of whom were killed and 40 wounded, who were brought into Suda. Two Ottoman superior officers were killed, one of whom was buried at Canea on the 19th. But few of our people were wounded, and only three killed.

On the 19th, at Tilisson, in the neighbourhood of Heraclium, a desperate battle was fought, in which our people thrice forced back the Ottoman forces, 5,000 in number. Many of the Turks were killed, and many were made prisoners by our people. The provisions of the Turkish army, the ammunition, and 150 horses fell into the hands of our people. In this glorious battle, writes a person of some weight from Crete, several Christians, having exhausted their ammunition, drove the Turks off with stones, killing four of them, with only slight loss. This battle and pursuit lasted two days. Having exhausted every device of cunning and deception, the well-known Saver, Omer Pasha, on the 22nd April, at the head of 15,000 men, set out against Sphakia; but the intrepid Cretans, united and full of courage, await impatiently this decisive attack. The measures adopted by our people prove sufficiently their firm resolve either to conquer or be buried amidst the ruins of Crete. Let our prayers accompany our heroic brethren, who may this very moment be fighting for the honour of the Hellenic name.

A report has been received from the military chief, Zimbrakakis, regarding the battle fought, on the 2nd instant, at Perivolia, near Canea, which we will publish later.

The Assembly, the Government, and the military chiefs have unanimously decided upon the reorganization of the island, in view to give greater unity to this sanguinary insurrection, which they are now more than ever determined to support to the very last. They have consequently adopted the following provisional Constitution, and have, in conformity with it, elected as Governor of Crete M. Demetrios Mavrocordatos, member of the Cretan Committee.

(From the office of the Central Committee.)

No. 111.

Lord A. Loftus to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 6.)

My Lord, *Berlin, May* 4, 1867.

IN reply to my inquiry, Baron Thile told me yesterday that Russia had notified to the Prussian Government the intention of proposing to the Porte the assembling of a Conference at Constantinople on the affair of Candia.

His Excellency stated that France had agreed to this view, and that the Prussian Representative had been instructed to associate himself to his colleagues in any proposal of this nature which should be made to the Porte.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS LOFTUS.

No. 112.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 6.)

My Lord, *Paris, May 5, 1867.*

THE Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, M. de Moustier informs me, is instructed to bring again to your Lordship's notice the affairs of the East. In giving me this information, M. de Moustier stated that he had reason to believe that your Lordship was not indisposed to associate yourself in a serious inquiry as to the grievances of which the Candiots complained. I said, that if his Excellency alluded to a report which had also reached St. Petersburg, that Her Majesty's Government had sanctioned the mission of one of the Secretaries of Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople to Candia, to take part in a local inquiry, I was enjoined by your Lordship to contradict it. M. de Moustier expressed both surprise and regret at my statement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 113.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 6, 1867.*

I HAVE to state to you that I approve of the language which you held to M. Rattazzi, as reported in your despatch of the 28th ultimo, in regard to the representation to be made by Italy in conjunction with certain other Powers at Constantinople, in regard to the cession of Candia to Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 114.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 7.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April 18, 1867.*

ADVERTING to my despatch of the 11th instant, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Dr. Sawas returned from Retimo on the morning of the 15th, and left again for that port the same day. That gentleman, although much pressed for time, was good enough to come and see me. I learned from him that he was beset by many difficulties in endeavouring to carry out his measures of relief, not from the Lieutenant-Governor himself, who, on the contrary, readily afforded him assistance, but on the part of the fanatical Cretan Turks Dr. Sawas also described the Mohammedan population of Candia as being far more liberal and more kindly disposed towards their suffering Christian fellow-subjects than the Mussulmans of Retimo.

Besides the Episcopal residence at Retimo, which as I previously reported, has been allotted to the use of some Christian families, two large houses occupied by troops have been emptied and made available by Dr. Sawas' exertions, one to put up 300 beds, the other being smaller, for 100 beds only.

A ration of about two pounds of bread is daily being issued to each adult, and one pound to every full-grown child.

I hope before long to hear of some further practical measures which the Relief Commission have been able to adopt; and I will not fail to report the same to your Lordship in due time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 115.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 7.)

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, April 20, 1867.*

THE "Arkadi" made another successful trip to Preveli in St. Vassili district, on or about the 12th instant.

Major de Kay, late of the United States' army, and brother to General McClellan's Aide-de-camp during the civil war in America, is reported to be coming to Crete from the Piræus by the "Arkadi," probably on her next voyage.

The day before yesterday a body of about 800 Cretan insurgents made a raid on the village of Makherus in Apokorona district. Captains Kostarò, Matheo, and Gourgounis (Cretans) were present. They succeeded in lifting several heads of cattle, and after a fight of six hours were driven back by Mehmet Pasha's troops, with a loss of some forty killed. In the latter number are comprised six wounded, who were subsequently beheaded on the spot. No quarter appears to have been given to any of the insurgents. The bodies of some of the Cretans killed were found after the encounter burning in a pile. This was done by their comrades, in order that the corpses should not fall into the hands of the Turks.

The Ottoman casualties were fifteen, including one lieutenant-colonel, since dead. In the course of the day a reinforcement of two battalions were sent to Mehmet Pasha.

An officer on board the "Mouzaffer," Turkish corvette, just arrived from Candia, informed me having seen from his ship yesterday morning some hard fighting in the direction of Tylissus. As the "Mouzaffer" was about leaving Candia roads some fifteen or twenty wounded Turkish soldiers were brought into town.

One thousand Turkish troops with a supply of ammunition were forwarded to Candia to-day.

The Ottoman squadron under the command of Vice-Admiral Ibrahim Pasha has received orders to be ready to proceed to sea the day after to-morrow. Its destination is as yet unknown to the public, and it is further said that the Generalissimo is to take passage on board one of the ships.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian" entered this harbour on the 16th instant, and is to relieve the "Wizard," which sailed the day before yesterday for Malta.

No. 116.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 7.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, Asril 22, 1867.*

THE Generalissimo having, as announced in my last despatch, left Canea this morning for Suda Bay, did not embark on board of any of the ships, but marched on towards Armenos in Apokorona.

His Highness was followed by a Turco-Egyptian force, roughly computed at 8,000 Infantry, besides 1,000 Cretan Irregulars from the Province of Canea, lately embodied. In Apokorona Omer Pasha will effect a junction with the army under the command of Mehmet Pasha, consisting of 4,000 troops.

Ismail Pasha, Commander of the Egyptian Contingent, and Ali Riza Pasha (whose division has recently been withdrawn from Topolia) proceed with Omer Pasha on the present campaign.

The strength of the insurgent force preparing to resist the advancing Ottoman army in and about Sfakia can only be vaguely estimated. Bands are stated to be repairing thither from various quarters of the Island; and I conjecture the bulk of the fighting men not to exceed 10,000 by this time, including about 1,500 Sfakiotes, and nearly as many foreign volunteers.

For the past few days the mountaineers have been felling trees and throwing up barricades in all the principal passes leading to the Sfakian districts.

Two transports have been dispatched to the Sfakia coast with provisions and ammunition, but the squadron has, up to the present moment, not left its anchorage in Suda Bay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 117.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 10.)

(Extract.) *Athens, May* 2, 1867,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting another successful trip to Crete of the blockade runner "Arkadi," with volunteers and supplies.

In a private letter dated the 30th ultimo, Mr. Lloyd adds, "The 'Arkadi' left this again last night about 7·15 P.M., with biscuit, flour, wheat, cartridges, and twenty-five volunteers, all for Crete. She was to go first to Gythion (Marathonisi), taking there Major Dimitrokarako and eighty volunteers, Mainiotes, where he expected to find a few hundred more; but it was not expected they would all go this voyage to Crete."

In a letter dated Canea the 28th ultimo, Lieutenant Montagu, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian," who has relieved the "Wizard" on that station, states that he is unable to report anything satisfactory as to the suppression of the revolt. Omer Pasha is near Prosnero, at the foot of the Askyfo Pass, where the insurgents are in force. He has with him about 13,000 troops. The approaches to the defile are represented as most strongly entrenched and defended by six guns, whilst the Pass is so narrow, that the assailants would have to advance in single file. In the opinion of Lieutenant Montagu it is very doubtful whether Omer Pasha will be able to carry the Pass. The country is strange to him, and he has found the army badly organized, and altogether in an unsatisfactory condition. The general opinion, he states, is that unless the Sultan largely reinforces the army, nothing effectual will be done. Whatever ground is gained must be occupied, which, with the small number of available troops, is out of the question. The whole force in Crete does not exceed 24,000 men, of whom only 13,000 are with Omar Pasha, the rest being required to garrison Retimo, Canea, and Candia.

Inclosure in No. 117.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, April* 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Greek blockade-runner "Arkadi" left Syra for Crete at about 11 P.M. of the 25th, and returned here this day at about 4 P.M., and reports having landed the whole of her cargo of ammunition and provisions, &c., and some thirty volunteers in Phineka Bay of Sphakia, without any molestation or meeting with any Turkish cruizers. The "Arkadi" reached Phineka Bay about half-past 8 P.M. of the 26th, and was away again by half-past 11 P.M.; the natives reporting that in Lutro, behind the promontory to the east of Phineka, two Turkish paddle-steamers were at anchor; also that, by the accounts they had received, Omer Pasha was at Stylos, and that cholera had broken out among the Turkish troops. All the families about Phineka were gone into the interior, and the "Arkadi," on leaving, stopped a few miles west of the place, but found no families there either; so returned without bringing any away. I believe the "Arkadi" will be going to Crete again very soon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 118.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 10.)

(Extract.; *Paris, May* 7, 1867.

I HAVE taken an opportunity, in compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, of undeceiving the Russian Ambassador as to his supposition that your Lordship had consented to take part in an inquiry concerning the state of Candia by sanctioning the mission to that island of one of Her Majesty's Secretaries to the Embassy at Constantinople.

No. 119.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, April* 24, 1867.

MR. CONSULAR AGENT CALOCHERINO, writing to me on the 22nd instant, states, "that the Lieutenant-Governor of Retimo, with Dr. Sawas and others, left this town on the 12th, and, while visiting several villages in this Province, counselled the inhabitants who had given in their submission to remain quiet, and not be afraid; at the same time that all those who are absent and with the insurgents have been granted a free pardon, and might now return to their respective homes without the least fear of punishment or molestation, on their offering a guarantee, and promise not to again quit them; that on tendering such guarantee they will be protected by the authorities; that they may transport to their villages from Retimo Town any provisions, &c., they or their families may require; otherwise they must consider such offer on the part of the authorities as henceforth of no avail.

"The Relief Commission have made a list of the suffering Christian families, and it is reckoned that these comprise more than 1,000 souls. The Commission have hired several houses, and lodged therein the crowd of Christians that had been temporarily put up in the church. The sufferers have been supplied with food, clothing, &c., according to their wants."

Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino informs me from Candia under the same date, as follows:—

"The Relief Commission of Candia has procured for the hospitals some iron beds and medicaments. No other measures have been adopted by the Commissioners, and although lists have been drawn up of the suffering population in this town, no great relief has as yet been afforded to them. The Commissioners are occupied in making out lists of the suffering population of the districts.

"Dr. Sawas has not yet returned here, but I hope when he comes more efficient measures will be carried out, and that he will besides give orders for the streets being cleaned, and in general the whole city, which being in a very dirty state, may give rise to some epidemic disease."

No. 120.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 27, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th instant, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a letter received from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, containing a brief account of the recent encounter at Tylissus between a body of insurgents and the Ottoman troops.

Inclosed herewith, moreover, is an extract of a letter from Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino, reporting a succession of forays made by the Cretan Turks on Karines, Atzipopoulo, Irene, Vedera, Gonia, and other villages in Retimo Province; the recall of the late Lieutenant-Governor, and the appointment of Ghalib Bey in his place.

Omer Pasha and his expeditionary force were up to yesterday still encamped at Stilos and Armenos. The necessity of reorganizing the army, and probably, too, the fact of his Highness expecting reinforcements to arrive from Retimo and Candia, may account for this delay in the onward march of the army.

The garrison at Kissamos has been further reduced by 1,000 Turco-Egyptian troops, who arrived here on the 23rd instant. I infer that there cannot be now more than 900 left in that fort.

I reckon the strength of the army actually in Retimo and Candia Provinces to be about 4,000 men in each. The total number of regular troops now on the island cannot be much over 23,000, exclusive of the embodied Cretan Irregulars, being some 3,500 more; total, 26,500.

The insurgents are reported to have six light pieces of artillery in the Prosnero Gorge.

The Sfakiotes have lodged their families and the greater part of their chattels into the valleys of Samaria and Rumeli, which have since been strongly barricaded, and the passes leading to them broken up.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 120.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, April* 22, 1867

I HAVE the honour to report that, on account of a large number of insurgents being assembled near Tylissos, in Malevisi, a body of irregulars, under the command of Reshid Pasha, proceeded on the 18th to that village, where, on the 19th instant, the insurgents, who occupied a strong position, attacked the irregulars and two battalions of regulars who had joined Reshid Pasha from the camp at St. Myron and from this city. The losses sustained by the Pasha are calculated to have been heavy; those of the insurgents are unknown, but are supposed to have been insignificant, on account of the strong position they hold; it is said that they even took some prisoners, whom they have killed. Reshid Pasha returned to town that same night, and yesterday afternoon again left to encounter the insurgents.

A Government steamer arrived here yesterday morning from Canea, having on board two battalions of regulars; these have been landed here.

It is said that, after the engagement, a peaceful Christian inhabitant of Tylissos was wounded by the irregulars, and that two others have disappeared; these are supposed to have been murdered by the irregulars. On account of these atrocities some of the inhabitants of that village, as of many others in Malevisi, are bringing their families to this town; others have fled to the mountains in Mylopotamos.

I have. &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 120.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dunlop.

(Translation.)

(Extract.) *Retino, Crete, April* $\frac{19}{22}$, 1867.

LAST night the Zurida, or band of irregulars, left this town; and having proceeded in the direction of St. Vassili, returned with more than 100 head of cattle and other booty. From Amari and Mylopotamos they conveyed 500 head of cattle and a considerable quantity of plunder. At Karìnes they took away twenty bullocks, sheep, and horses, and, having violated the women and murdered five Christians, they then set fire to the village.

On the 16th instant the new Lieutenant-Governor of Retimo, Ghalib Bey, arrived, Sadyk Bey having been recalled.

On the 21st, the authorities having received information from some peaceable inhabitants of Atzipopoulo, Irene, Vedèro, Gonia, &c., that insurgents had appeared in those villages, dispatched that same night a body of regular and irregular troops, and, before these had reached their destination, the insurgents had fled. On this occasion the Turks killed a Christian and wounded another. They, moreover, sacked the whole of the villages above stated, which, having surrendered, the inhabitants thereof made a formal declaration to that effect to the Lieutenant-Governor.

It seems useless for the authorities to urge the Cretan irregulars not to molest the peaceable Christians; they will never listen, but are continually committing excesses. At last measures are being taken for enrolling these Bashi-bazouks and making them amenable to discipline.

Within the last three days preparations are making for the regulars and irregulars taking the field, but as yet these troops have not quitted Retimo.

No. 121.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, April* 29, 1867.

A PROCLAMATION from Omer Pasha to the Cretans was issued in this city the day before yesterday. Each of the Consuls has been furnished with a copy.

The document is printed in Greek, and bears date, Canea, the 24th instant.

I have the honour to inclose a translation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 121.

Proclamation.

(Translation.) (L.S.) The Mushir, Omer.

Cretans!

HIS Imperial Majesty, our august Sovereign, having entrusted me with the task of quelling the disturbances in this unhappy island, I now therefore come to you with the most paternal intentions.

If, on the one hand, the clemency of His Imperial Majesty be great, his anger, on the other, is still greater. I let you know this much, and offer you my fatherly advice, in order that you may avoid the danger, and trust to his goodwill, if you desire the well-being of your country.

Some turbulent and scandalous parties abroad have been seeking to destroy the peace and happiness of the island, by sending over foreigners to stir up the insurrection; and while availing themselves of this state of things, they delude you by promises which are utterly groundless.

You have had ample proofs during the past months of the fact of these foreigners, who are still on the island, having deceived you. They have nothing to lose; but you yourselves, your families, and your property suffer by these disturbances. These same foreigners, as soon as a favourable opportunity present itself, will surrender, and seek the means whereby they may return to their native country, or will solicit a truce that they may escape, as happened on former occasions. Experience of the past will show the truth of what is to come.

No inhabitant, whether Turk or Christian, has the right himself of taking vengeance or justice for any difference or question between parties at suit. Justice can only be awarded by the Government who holds such to be sacred; and whosoever does not obey, or conduct himself properly, will be severely punished.

Any village that, having made its submission and obeyed these summons, should subsequently recant and take part in the insurrection, will compel me, in spite of myself, to have recourse to such means as are in my power and in conformity with martial law.

Hence, I must give you warning to beware lest you bring on yourselves certain coercive measures the employment of which would at any time be extremely painful to my feelings.

Listen now to the paternal counsels I am giving you, and rest assured that you will not have reason to repent, inasmuch as my only desire is for your future prosperity and welfare; and I shall truly rejoice when I see you so circumstanced.

Given at my head-quarters, and sealed with my seal, at Canea, 19 Zilhidgé, 1283 ($\frac{12}{24}$ April, 1867).

No. 122.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 13.)

(Extract.) *Athens, May* 3, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th ultimo, forwarding a bulletin of the Cretan Commission here notifying the appointment of M. Demetrius Mavrocordato as President of the Island, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translated copy of a Constitution recently voted by the so-called "General Assembly of the Cretans," which is to remain in force until the island shall have been definitively annexed to this kingdom.

Inclosure in No. 122.

Constitution voted by General Assembly of Crete, April 8, 1867.

(Traduction.)

AU nom du peuple Crétois, l'Assemblée Générale des Crétois décrète:—

Jusqu'à la réalisation de l'union déjà décidée par le peuple Crétois de l'Ile de Crète au Royaume de Grèce, la présente Constitution Provisoire aura force de loi.

Article 1. Les droits souverains du peuple de la Crète sont représentés par l'Assemblée Générale des Crétois.

Art. 2. Le pouvoir Législatif appartient à l'Assemblée Générale, qui décide à la majorité des voix, ainsi que prescrit son règlement particulier.

Art. 3. Le pouvoir Exécutif est confié à un Président élu par l'Assemblée Générale pour toute la durée de la lutte nationale jusqu'à l'accomplissement de l'union de la Crète et de toutes ses dépendances avec la Grèce libre.

Art. 4. Le Président exécute les lois votées par l'Assemblée, rend les Ordonnances et Réglements nécessaires pour leur exécution, élit et nomme les fonctionnaires civils et militaires, détermine leurs appointements et en général fait tout ce qui est du ressort du pouvoir Exécutif.

L'Assemblée et le Président sont chargés de conférer des grades et des récompenses à des personnes qui auront combattu durant la guerre de l'indépendance.

Dans le choix et la nomination des fonctionnaires militaires on doit surtout avoir en vue les dispositions de la population du lieu où ils seront nommés.

Art. 5. Tout ce qui concerne l'action extérieure pour la résolution de la reconstitution nationale sera exclusivement du ressort du Président, sous la condition seule de l'union parfaite de la Crète avec la Grèce libre. Mais le Président ne pourra prendre aucune mesure définitive concernant le sort politique de l'Ile, sans la décision de l'Assemblée Générale, la majorité de ses membres étant réunie et décidant à la majorité absolue.

Art. 6. Il est établi un Conseil Gouvernemental de sept membres élu par l'Assemblée Générale dans son sein ou dehors d'elle, qui sera consulté :—

(1.) Pour la préparation des projets soumis à l'Assemblée Générale ;

(2.) Quand il s'agira de rendre des Décrets concernant l'exécution du règlement du service ;

(3.) Pour la détermination des appointements des fonctionnaires civils. Pour que les séances du Conseil soient légales il faut qu'il y ait au moins trois membres présents.

Art. 7. Le Président et les membres du Conseil Gouvernemental prêteront serment de fidélité à la patrie en présence de l'Assemblée Générale. Tous les fonctionnaires publics prêteront en présence du Président le serment de fidélité à la patrie et jureront de remplir fidèlement les devoirs de leur charge.

Art. 8. Toute Loi, tout Décret et tout Règlement sont rendus au nom de Georges I, Roi des Hellènes. Le pouvoir Exécutif élira dans chaque district un Délégué pour administrer les districts conjointement avec un Conseil Local élu par l'Assemblée Générale, de la manière dont il sera réglé par une loi spéciale.

Art. 9. Dans chaque district l'autorité administrative établira un tribunal pour rendre la justice civile et pénale. Ces tribunaux rendront leurs jugements au nom de Georges I, Roi des Hellènes, et jugeront les affaires civiles suivant les coutumes existantes, et dans les affaires pénales appliqueront les peines prononcées par le Code Pénal du Royaume de Grèce.

Art. 10. Le présent Décret sera publié dans toute l'île et communiqué aux Consuls des Puissances étrangères.

A Comitades de Sphakia, le 8 *Avril*, 1867.

L'Assemblée Générale des Crétois.

(Suivent les signatures)

(Translation.)

IN the name of the Cretan people, the General Assembly of the Cretans decrees :—

Until the realization of the Union already determined on by the Cretan people, of the Island of Crete with the Kingdom of Greece, the existing Provisional Constitution shall have the force of law.

Article 1. The sovereign rights of the Cretan people are represented by the Cretan General Assembly.

Art. 2. The Legislative power belongs to the General Assembly, which decides by a majority of voices, as is prescribed by its private regulations.

Art. 3. The Executive power is entrusted to a President, elected by the General Assembly for the whole duration of the national struggle, and until the accomplishment of the Union of Crete and all its dependencies with the free land of Greece.

Art. 4. The President carries into effect the laws voted by the Assembly, orders the Ordinances and Regulations necessary for their execution, elects and names the Civil and Military functionaries, settles their appointments, and generally performs everything within the province of the Executive power.

The Assembly and the President are entrusted to confer grades and recompenses on persons who have fought through the war of independence.

In the choice of the nominations of military functionaries, particular attention should be paid to the inclinations of the population of the district from which they are called.

Art. 5. Everything to do with the outward mode of action for the settlement of the re-organization of the national Constitution shall be exclusively within the province of the President, with one stipulation, namely, the perfect union of Crete with free Greece. But the President shall not be able to take any definite measure respecting the political fate of the island without the decision of the General Assembly, the greater part of its members assembling and deciding by an absolute majority.

Art. 6. There exists a Government Council of seven members, elected by the General Assembly either from their own body or not, which must be consulted :—

(1.) On the preparation of projects to be submitted to the General Assembly.

(2.) When there is a question of making decrees relating to the execution of the regulations of the service.

(3.) On the decision of the appointment of civil functionaries. In order that the sittings of the Council may be legal, there must be at least three members present.

Art. 7. The President and the Members of the Government Council shall swear fidelity to their country in the presence of the General Assembly. All public functionaries shall take the oath of allegiance to their country, in the presence of the President, and swear faithfully to fulfil the duties of their office.

Art. 8. Every law, decree, and regulation is made in the name of George I, King of the Hellenes. The executive power shall elect in every district a Delegate to govern that district, in conjunction with the Local Council elected by the General Assembly, in the way ordained by a special law.

Art. 9. In each district the administrative authorities shall establish a tribunal to distribute civil and penal justice. These tribunals shall give their judgments in the name of George I, King of the Hellenes, and shall decide civil causes according to existing customs, and in criminal matters shall order the punishments ordained by the Penal Code of the Kingdom of Greece.

Art. 10. This Decree shall be published throughout the island, and be communicated to the Cousuls of foreign Powers.

Sphakia, April 8, 1867.

The General Assembly of the Cretans.
(Follow signatures.)

No. 123.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 13.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, May* 8, 1867.

IT is still intended, as far as I am informed here, that the Powers, who addressed separate representations to the Porte last month in favour of the Cretans, shall now recommend, collectively, that the wishes of the Islanders shall be consulted as to their future position by a Commission composed of European as well as of Turkish functionaries. When speaking on this subject with Prince Gortchakoff to-day, his Excellency said that he hoped Her Majesty's Government would not remain indifferent while Omer Pasha was devastating Candia, but that they would join the other Powers in taking measures for the protection of the defenceless women and children in that island. I answered that I had no late instructions from your Lordship on the subject, but I had reason to believe that Her Majesty's Government would continue to act towards Turkey as an independent State, and that while foreign Powers were asking the Porte to annex Candia to Greece, the Cretans, though desirous of self-government, had no wish to become subjects of His Hellenic Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 124.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 13, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, reporting the course which you state you are informed the Powers, who addressed separate representations to the Porte in favour of the Cretans, still propose to take, and the conversation which you had with Prince Gortchakoff thereupon; and I have to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the language held by you on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 126.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, May* 13, 1867.

THE Austrian Ambassador has communicated to me a despatch from Baron Beust on Eastern affairs, the substance of which may be shortly stated as follows:—

Baron Beust does not approve of a proposal which the French Government appears to have recently made for a collective inquiry into the cause of the Cretan insurrection, and into the means of remedying the present state of things, which, if declined by the Porte, the Russian Government suggests might be followed up by a coolness in the relations between the Powers and the Porte, to the exclusion, however, of all notion of having recourse to force.

Baron de Beust sees in such coolness a serious danger, as tending to accelerate the dissolution of the Turkish Empire, and has accordingly recourse to the British Government with whom he desires to interchange ideas.

By continuing to hold aloof, the British Government, Baron de Beust says, renders the situation of the Ottoman Empire more precarious; and he suggests that Great Britain should propose that Commissioners should be sent to Candia by the Great Powers, though it is not exactly stated what they are to do when they get there. But Baron de Beust adds that it might, perhaps, be necessary to require that the Greek volunteers and other adventurers should withdraw from the island, though he does not explain by what means he thinks that could be accomplished.

Count Apponyi called upon me a day or two after this communication, and inquired what answer I was prepared to give as to the proposal contained in it. I said that I did not clearly understand what was to be the duty of the Commissioners whom Baron de Beust wished to send. Were they to inquire only; or to act as mediators between the two contending parties? In the latter case, was there the slightest probability of their mediation being accepted by the Porte. In the former, would they be able to send home more or better information than was already supplied by the Consuls on the spot?

Nor was it to me more obvious by what means the removal of the foreign volunteer proposed by Baron de Beust was to be effected. They certainly could not abandon the enterprise in which they had engaged, at the mere request of foreign Governments, unless they had some assurance, expressed or implied, that the object for which they were fighting would be secured by diplomatic means. But this was a pledge which we were hardly prepared to give.

I assured Count Apponyi that, in raising these objections, I did so from no sympathy with the Turkish or hostility to the Greek cause. The sole consideration which weighed with me was that of respect for international duties, among which I reckoned the observance of neutrality between insurgents and the Governments against which they were fighting.

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Bloomfield.

I further pointed out to Count Apponyi that the recent appointment of Omer Pasha to command in Crete would probably simplify matters. He was, according to general belief, the ablest General in the Ottoman service. Should he succeed in suppressing the insurrection, the time would come for recommending at Constantinople measures of conciliation and administrative improvements. Should he, on the other hand, fail, it would be a question for the Porte seriously to consider whether the continuance of a costly and exhausting struggle would not be, for itself, a greater evil than the cession of a single and detached Province.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 127.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 13, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called upon me this afternoon, and said that the Turkish Government had refused to listen to the advice offered by France, and that the French Government could not accept this refusal, and, therefore, think it necessary to address a new and stronger remonstrance to the Porte, which is contained in the draft of a despatch to the French Ambassador at Constantinople, a copy of which Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne left with me, and which I now forward to your Excellency.

The purport of this communication is, that the population of Crete itself, freely consulted, is the best judge of the necessary remedy for the evils of its actual position. But it is requisite that this consultation of its wishes should take place on the spot; and it would be important that the Cabinets should have the most accurate information of the state of matters.

It is desirable, however, to be prepared for a fresh refusal on the part of the Porte, and the French Government has consulted that of Russia as to what should be done in that case. Prince Gortchakoff thinks that the Powers ought to warn the Porte of the coolness which would ensue between it and the Powers; but that diplomatic measures alone should be taken with that view, and that force should not be used.

M. de Moustier goes on to say that the French Government is communicating to the different Courts the draft of the instructions to the French Ambassador at Constantinople, herewith transmitted to you, with a request that identical instructions should be forwarded to the Representatives of the several Courts at Constantinople; but that M. Bourrée is not to receive his instructions until complete agreement is come to on that point.

M. de Moustier understands that the idea of an inquiry on the spot by some member of the British Embassy has not been absolutely rejected by Her Majesty's Government. He hopes that Her Majesty's Government may accept the combination now proposed, the considerations of expediency which formerly prevented their doing so, no longer existing. He thinks it is time for Her Majesty's Government to depart frnm their policy of abstention, of which the Porte makes an excuse for resisting all the advice it receives. He is anxious for the expression of their opinion on this proposal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

Inclosure in No. 127.

M. de Moustier to M. Bourrée.

Monsieur, *Paris, le Avril,* 1867.

LES rapports que vous m'avez adressés sur l'accueil fait par Fuad Pacha à votre démarche au sujet de la Crête m'ont prouvé que la Porte n'avait pas bien compris le véritable objet des conseils que vous étiez chargé de lui donner de concert avec les Représentants de l'Autriche, de l'Italie, de la Prusse, et de la Russie. En effet, le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Sultan, au lieu d'examiner si la mesure qui lui était suggerée ne présentait pas un caractère évident d'opportunité et même d'urgence, s'est engagé dans le champ des conjectures sur les conséquences éventuelles qu'elle pouvait

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Lyons.

avoir ; il a porté ainsi le débat sur des questions qui n'étaient pas posées, en éludant celle qui était seule en discussion. Les Puissances sont trop pénétrées de la justesse et de la force des considérations qui ont dicté leur langage dans cette circonstance, pour se laisser détourner du but de leurs efforts. Après bientôt huit mois d'une lutte qui a fait couler tant de sang et qui n'est pas terminée, en présence d'une résistance qui témoigne certainement d'un mal profond dans la condition des populations, il est une nécessité qui s'impose avant toute autre, c'est de s'éclairer sur l'état des choses en Crête, et de se rendre un compte exact des besoins du pays. La Porte serait dans une complète illusion si elle supposait qu'aucun des moyens qu'elle a employés jusqu'ici puisse être considéré par les Puissances comme conduisant à un degré quelconque au but qu'elles se proposent. En faisant connaître toute leur pensée à cet égard au Gouvernement Ottoman et en lui apportant un avis sincère, elles n'excèdent assurément ni leurs traditions ni leurs droits, et les Ministres Ottomans ne s'étonneront pas qu'elles mettent aujourd'hui plus d'insistance dans leurs démarches. Le moment nous semble venu, en effet, de rechercher sérieusement l'origine du mal et les remèdes qu'il comporte. Les populations seules, librement et sincèrement consultées, pourraient l'indiquer. Cette consultation devrait avoir lieu sur place, et il serait important que les Puissances fûssent mises à même de s'éclairer directement sur l'état réel des choses. Elles ne sauraient voir d'ailleurs qu'avec un profond regret continuer l'effusion du sang, et elles ont assez de confiance, aussi bien dans les sentiments d'humanité et de modération du Gouvernement Ottoman que dans sa juste appréciation des intérêts bien entendues de la Turquie, pour n'être pas persuadées d'avance que, sur tous ces points, il tiendra le compte le plus sérieux des conseils désintéressés et amicaux qui lui sont donnés.

Vous êtes autorisé à laisser copie de cette dépêche au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Paris, April* , 1867.

THE reports which you have addressed to me on the reception given by Fuad Pasha to your proposal on the subject of Crete have proved to me that the Porte had not well understood the real object of the counsels which you were charged to give him in concert with the Representatives of Austria, of Italy, of Prussia, and of Russia. In fact, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sultan, instead of examining whether the measure which was suggested to him did not present an evident character of opportuneness and even of urgency, has engaged himself in the field of conjecture on the eventual consequences which it might have : he has thus carried the debate to questions which were not laid before him, while eluding the one which was alone under discussion. The Powers are too much penetrated by the justice and by the force of the considerations which have dictated their language in this circumstance, to allow themselves to be diverted from the aim of their efforts. After nearly eight months of a struggle which has caused so much blood to flow, and which is not terminated, in presence of a resistance which bears certain witness to a deep evil in the condition of the population, there is one necessity which imposes itself before every other—it is to enlighten oneself on the state of things in Crete, and to give oneself an exact account of the wants of the country. The Porte would be under a complete delusion if it supposed that any of the means which it has hitherto employed could be considered by the Powers as conducing in any degree to the aim which they propose to themselves. In making known their entire thoughts on this subject to the Ottoman Government, and in giving it a sincere opinion, they assuredly exceed neither their traditions nor their rights, and the Ottoman Ministers will not be surprised that they should now put more urgency in their proceedings. In fact, the moment seems to us to be arrived, to look seriously for the origin of the evil, and for the remedies to be applied. The populations alone, freely and sincerely consulted, could indicate it. This consultation should take place on the spot, and it would be important that the Powers should be enabled to enlighten themselves directly on the real state of things. They could not, moreover, see without profound regret, the continuance of the effusion of blood, and they have enough confidence, as well in the sentiments of humanity and the moderation of the Ottoman Government, as in its just appreciation of the well-known interests of Turkey, to be persuaded beforehand that on all these points, it will take the most serious account of the disinterested and amicable counsels which are given to it.

You are authorised to leave a copy of this despatch with the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

No. 128.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 15, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called upon me this afternoon for an answer to the communication which he made to me the day before yesterday on the affairs of Crete.

After some discussion, I gave it him as nearly as possible in the following terms:—

That I observed with pleasure that, in the despatch which he had read to me, nothing was said of the cession of the Island; the changes proposed appear to refer exclusively to questions of administrative improvements.

That Her Majesty's Government were not disinclined to press on the Porte, as they had done before, the amelioration of the local Government, and generally of the position of the Christians in Crete. That, as regards the suggested inquiry to be made on the spot, I did not as yet sufficiently understand in what manner it is desired that the inquiry should be instituted, or with what authority it is proposed that those conducting it should be invested. If, however, the Turkish Government were duly represented, and took part in the investigation, the inconvenience of the proceeding would be much diminished. On that part of the question, however, I wished to reserve my opinion:

That Her Majesty's Government regret, in common with that of the Emperor, the continued effusion of blood, and would see with satisfaction arrangements made which would put an end to it:

They are glad to observe in the despatch to which I was replying, and in other communications on the subject, that France puts aside the idea of having recourse to any means beyond those of diplomacy, in the event of the advice which they propose to give not being favourably received by the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 129.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 17.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, April* 29, 1867.

I LEARN that fresh communications on the subject of Crete have been made to the Porte by the French and Russian Ambassadors separately.

It appears that the day before yesterday the first Dragoman of the Russian Embassy waited on Aali Pasha, and, in the name of General Ignatieff, strongly advised him to agree to a proposal to send a European Commission to Crete to inquire into the real condition of the island, and to ascertain the wishes of the population with regard to their future lot. Aali Pasha declined to listen to any such proposal, declaring that the Porte would never consent to submit the rights of the Sultan to a popular vote.

This morning a visit was, it seems, made to Aali Pasha by the first Dragoman of the French Embassy, who read to His Highness a telegram addressed to M. Bourrée, the French Ambassador, by the Marquis de Moustier. By this telegram M. Bourrée was enjoined to do his utmost to induce the Porte to send orders immediately to Omer Pasha to suspend hostilities, as the continuance of them would lead only to useless bloodshed, and would make no change in the resolutions of the European Powers. It appears that Aali Pasha positively declined to order a suspension of hostilities, and pointed out that the warfare in Crete was now waged by foreign adventurers with whom the Porte could not be expected to conclude an armistice.

No. 130.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 17.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, May* 8, 1867.

THE French advice to order a suspension of hostilities has been supported by the Representatives of Russia, Prussia, Italy, and, with perhaps some slight reservation, by the Austrian Internuncio.

The answer made to the French Dragoman declared that it was quite impossible for the Porte to consent to a suspension of hostilities. The troubles in Crete were now kept

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Lyons.

up entirely by foreign adventurers. There was a very simple way to put a stop to bloodshed. Let the Powers of Europe prevent the despatch of volunteers and supplies from Greece. Let them take measures, in concert with the Porte, to remove from Crete the foreign disturbers of the peace of the island. If bloodshed should continue when the Porte was confronted with its own subjects only; if peace should not then be restored; if an amnesty should be withheld; if measures for promoting the good government and prosperity of the island should not be adopted, the Powers might press their counsels on the Porte. They could not reasonably call upon the Porte to conclude an armistice with bands of foreign adventurers.

This same answer was subsequently made to the other Dragomans, who had spoken in support of the French communication.

No. 131.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 17.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, May* 10, 1867.

FUAD PASHA said that he had recently received very encouraging reports of the success of Dr. Sawas' mission, and mentioned in particular that a large distribution of provisions had been made to Christian families on the eve of the Greek Easter Sunday (28th April). The Porte was, he said, making every effort to relieve the distress of the Cretans, and he would earnestly request me to trust to these efforts.

I told Fuad Pasha that I took note of the assurances of his Highness that the Porte would do all that could be done to relieve the distress in Crete. I should look with anxiety for further reports from Her Majesty's Consul, whom I had particularly instructed to keep me regularly informed of the proceedings of the Relief Committee, and of the practical results produced by it. I trusted that all requisitions from Dr. Sawas would be promptly attended to by the authorities here. The responsibility of the Porte was of course increased if, in deference to its wishes, aid to the Cretans from other sources was withheld.

Fuad Pasha said that additional supplies and a sum of money had been very recently dispatched to Dr. Sawas from Constantinople. I might, he added, rest assured that the really kind thing to the Cretans was to abstain from all steps which could tend directly or indirectly to protract the struggle.

No. 132.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, May* 17, 1867.

I HAVE to inform your Excellency, in reply to your despatch of the 10th instant, that Her Majesty's Government approve the advice given by you that effectual measures should at once be taken by the Turkish Government to relieve the distress now prevalent in Crete.

No. 133.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 17.)

(Extract.) *Athens, May* 8, 1867.

ON her last trip but one to Crete, the "Arkadi" was chased and repeatedly fired at by the three Turkish cruizers, as your Lordship will perceive from a despatch addressed to me by Mr. Consul Lloyd, of which a copy is inclosed herewith. She subsequently, however, returned to another part of the west coast the same night, and discharged the rest of her cargo without further interruption.

Undeterred by the danger which she so narrowly escaped on this occasion, the "Arkadi" again left Syra on the 4th instant, and ran over to the north-eastern coast with a cargo of ammunition and provisions and fourteen volunteers, all of which were safely landed the same night at a place called Agia Pelagia, near Candia, and she returned to Syra about 1 o'clock P.M. on the 5th instant. She brought back no families, and only two volunteers.

Reshid Pasha, the Governor of Candia, had made a sortie with 200 men; but, after some skirmishing with the insurgents, he withdrew into the fortress.

Omer Pasha is said to be still at Neokhori, in Apokorona, awaiting reinforcements;

but if, as is reported, the Egyptian troops are shortly to be recalled, he will be no stronger even when his reinforcements reach him than he was before.

The newly appointed revolutionary President of Crete, M. Demetrios Mavrocordatos, is still here; and it appears to be doubtful whether he will attempt to enter upon his functions until the result of Omer Pasha's campaign against Sfakia is known. The explanation given of this delay is that it is not desirable under present circumstances to concentrate the insurgent forces, which are more likely to distract and harass the Turkish troops whilst disseminated in small bodies than they would be were they to assemble in considerable numbers round the Provisional Government.

Inclosure in No. 133.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, May* 2, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report to you another successful trip of the "Arkadi" to Crete, and her return here with a few families. The following are the particulars as far as I have been able to learn.

The "Arkadi" left Syra on Monday the 29th April, at 7·30 P.M., with ammunition and provisions, and some thirty volunteers, besides Major Dimitrakarakos with eighty other Mainiote volunteers, and went direct to Gythium (Marathonisi), where she arrived shortly after 7 A.M., and there landed Dimitrakarakos with his eighty volunteers. She left Gythium a little before 9 A.M., and proceeded by the west of Crete to Suja, where she arrived at about 8·30 P.M. (but might have got there two hours sooner, only it was too early in the day), and commenced discharging cargo, and landing volunteers, and receiving families. At 10 P.M. she was surprised by a Turkish two-funnelled paddle-steamer coming close in-land, and being as usual moored head to sea, with one anchor down, and a rope from the stern ashore, she slipped her anchor, cast off, and ran out to sea. The Turk fired a rocket, and then commenced firing at the "Arkadi," being abreast of her for a short time. Though the "Arkadi," on slipping her anchor had a high pressure of steam, yet while discharging, her fires got dull, the consequence of which was that her steam soon got low, and hence the Turk was enabled to get abreast of her, not venturing to make direct for the "Arkadi," lest she should lose ground, and the "Arkadi" get away a-head; in a few minutes, however, the "Arkadi's" steam was again well up, and she got a-head of the Turk after some six or seven shots had been fired at her without touching, some of the balls whistling over the "Arkadi's" stern. At 10·15 she fell in with another Turkish vessel, a frigate, which also fired seven or eight shots at her, but without effect, and another steamer which, however, did not fire at her, and the "Arkadi" got away from them all. The log was hove three or four times on the voyage, and she was said to be found making 16½ knots; but, however that rate of speed may be overrated, certain it is, she got clear away from all three without harm, and steered for Cerigo.

At 11·30 P.M. the course was altered for Stomia Bay of Enneakoria, where she arrived at about 12·30 A.M., and there discharged the rest of her cargo, and came away at 3·30 A.M. for Syra, where she arrived yesterday the 1st, at 4 P.M., bringing back in all thirty souls, of whom twelve are sick and wounded volunteers, and the remainder women and children.

From what these people said, it would appear there were many ready and willing to leave Suja; for before even the "Arkadi" had arrived at her place of discharge, the natives were aware of her approach by the noise of her paddles, which it would seem is very different from that of the Turkish vessels; and it is supposed that this difference of the noise, which on a calm night is perceptible a very long way off (notwithstanding her feathering floats), especially in the direction of the wind, might have betrayed her to the Turkish frigate she fell in with on being forced to leave Suja.

The "Arkadi" has brought no news of fighting anywhere, nor of the movements of Omer Pasha; but there is a report current here that Omer Pasha has been recalled, being required more urgently elsewhere in Turkey in Europe; also that the Cretan Mussulmans refuse to join the Turkish troops to fight against the Cretan Christians, declaring that these latter have now all breech-loading needle-guns, and that the Mussulmans require to be furnished with similar weapons before exposing themselves to the fire of the Christians. These, however, are mere Greek reports circulated in Syra.

The "Arkadi," I believe, will start again very shortly for Crete.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 134.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 18.)

(Extract.) *Paris, May 17, 1867.*

M. DE MOUSTIER has informed me that it is his intention, at the instance of the Austrian Government, to instruct the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne again to urge your Lordship to join in some representation to the Porte, with a view of obtaining a remedy for the grievances of which the Christian populations of Crete complain.

I observed to M. de Moustier that from a despatch which your Lordship had done me the honour to address to me, giving an account of a conversation which you had already had on this subject with the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne, I gathered that your Lordship had no objection to repeat the advice you had given to the Porte to ameliorate the local government of Crete and the general position of the Christians in that island, but that with regard to the proposed inquiry you wished for further information, both as to its institution and as to the authority under which it was to be carried on.

M. de Moustier replied that his object was to endeavour to persuade the Porte to appoint a Commission to inquire upon the spot into the alleged grievances of the Christians, and, as a proof of sincerity in the inquiry, to invite delegates from the other Powers to assist in the investigation.

I said that if the Porte could be induced to take the initiative, as M. de Moustier suggested, the position of Her Majesty's Government would be to a certain extent altered, though I still imagined that Her Majesty's Government would require that the action of the Commission should be clearly defined. For instance, I observed, the Christian population might profit by the presence of foreign delegates to insist upon the Island of Crete being separated from Turkey. The Mussulmans, on the contrary, would desire to continue their allegiance to the Porte. Was M. de Moustier prepared to say what the French Government would do under such circumstances?

M. de Moustier acknowledged that the question was full of difficulties. Without exactly replying to my question, his Excellency seemed to indicate that autonomy under a Turkish Governor might settle the matter satisfactorily.

No. 135.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 18, 1867.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 17th instant, reporting your conversation with M. de Moustier on his Excellency announcing to you that the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne would be instructed to make a further representation to Her Majesty's Government, with the object of inducing them to join in a collective remonstrance to the Porte on the affairs of Crete; and I entirely approve of the language held by your Excellency on this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 136.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 20.)

My Lord, *Canea, May 6, 1867.*

PART of the expeditionary force, with Omer Pasha himself, has lately been moving from Armenos and Stilos to Vrisses near Prosnero, and subsequently to Episkopi. The rest of the army remains at Vrisses under the command of Mehmet Pasha. In thus advancing in the direction of Retimo, his Highness may have contemplated a junction with the troops coming up from that quarter, and at the same time endeavoured to intercept all further communication between the insurgents belonging to Colonel Coroneos' division (he himself having gone to Askyfo), and their main body in Sphakia. He may have likewise relinquished an attack on Askyfo by Prosnero, with the intention of marching into Sphakia through Gaïdaropolis, and by the more practicable, yet more distant, pass of Kallikrati.

An encounter took place at Episkopi on the 2nd instant, when the troops set fire to

the whole of that large village, and three others besides. The following day some further fighting at Kurnas, on the borders of that lake, and on the 4th against Mathé, when about 200 Turkish wounded men were sent to Kalynes to be embarked on board ship. While Captains Hadji Mikhalis and Kriaris were proceeding from Lakos to Drakona on the 30th ultimo with a band of about 800 Cretans, they descended into Keramia Valley, and attacked at Yerolakos a reconnoitring party under Hassan Pasha, consisting of four battalions and 100 Cretan irregulars. The engagement having lasted the greater part of the day, ended without any decisive result to either of the combatants.

Two hundred Circassian cavalry having arrived from Constantinople have since joined the Generalissimo's head-quarters.

Mehmet Pasha's division is reported to have been engaged the whole of yesterday at Krapi against a strong body of Cretans and volunteers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 137.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 20.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 11, 1867.

I HAVE received a short letter from Mr. Consul Dickson, dated the 7th, of which an extract is inclosed herewith, stating that it was reported at Canea that Omer Pasha has been repulsed in an attack on the Pass of Ghaidaropolis, leading to the Plain of Kallicrati, whilst Mehmet Pasha had been equally unsuccessful in an attempt to force the Pass of Krapi.

I inclose also the versions of these affairs which has been published here.

Both the Austrian and Italian Ministers have received very similar accounts from their Consuls at Canea, and I can scarcely doubt that the insurgents are defending themselves vigorously in all directions. It is still doubtful, however, whether Omer and Mehmet Pashas have really been repulsed in their attempt to penetrate into Sfakia by two different directions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 137.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Crete, May* 7, 1867.

THE latest report from the seat of war, is to the effect that Omer Pasha has been obliged to fall back upon Episkopi, after making an unsuccessful attempt to enter Kallikrati from Ghaidaropolis; on the other hand, that Mehmet Pasha's division has been repulsed from Krapi, and obliged to retreat to Armyro.

The above report requires confirmation.

Inclosure 2 in No. 137.

Anonymous Letter from Crete, published in a Supplement of the Greek Newspaper "Annunciation" of May 11, 1867.

(Translation.)

Friend, *Canea, May* 6, 1867.

ABOUT four or five days ago, Omer Pasha was in the plain of Apokorona, probably occupied in surveying the ground. Suddenly a body of Turks made a sortie from Retimo to join the army, but were attacked by a body of insurgents in the vicinity of the village of Episcopi, where they suffered severe losses, and were compelled to retreat. The next day, Omer Pasha sent numerous reinforcements, but they also were driven back to Ghaïdaropolis, being joined by the corps from Retimo, whom the insurgents had driven back. As yet we have no true information respecting casualities on this occasion.

Since that time we have been in ignorance of Omer Pasha's movements, when we suddenly learned to-day, from peasants arrived from Apokorona, that since noon of the

3rd instant, he has attacked the Pass of Krapi, which leads to Askyfo; that he met with strong resistance; that the battle was desperate, and that up to the evening of yesterday, when they (the peasants) left, the Turkish army had not succeeded in making any progress. It is the opinion of every one that the entry into Sphakia from these parts is impossible, as the passes are held by a sufficient force. The peasants who brought these news do not say whether at Kallikratos a similar attack has been made; but there can be no doubt that the same thing is taking place there also, more especially as competent persons consider the attack on Krapi only as a diversion.

Besides this, on the 29th and 30th ultimo several skirmishes took place, in which Hadji Mikhali, the gallant and courageous chief, put the Turks to flight and drove them up the hills of Nerikouri. The report of the guns was heard in the neighbouring towns. Foreigners were astonished at the courage of the insurgents, who ventured so close to the town to attack the Turks. The losses suffered by the Turks on this occasion were not trifling. A Major and a great many others were wounded. The moral result of these battles was most impressive.

P.S.—I hasten to transmit to you the very interesting and encouraging news which have since reached us; namely, that the attack on Sphakia was made in two different parts,—at the Pass of Krapi and at the Pass of Kallikratos; but that after desperate fighting, which lasted from noon on Saturday until yesterday evening, or during the whole night, Omer Pasha, seeing his plans defeated, retired to the plain. Many wounded have been taken into Suda.

I salute you,
(Signed) S. . . . . .

No. 138.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 23.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, May 20, 1867.*

FROM all I have heard here the time is now considered passed by the Imperial Government when the Candian question can be settled by any arrangement short of the annexation of the island to Greece.

When I took an opportunity of mentioning some days ago to Prince Gortchakoff that, from information received by Her Majesty's Government from British officers who had no sympathies with the Turkish Government, it appeared that the Candiotes had no wish to become subjects of the King of the Hellenes, his Excellency evidently considered this opinion as entirely erroneous, and replied, "Let them be fairly consulted on the point, and the Russian Government will be satisfied with their answer."

No. 139.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 23, 1867.*

THE French Ambassador called upon me to-day, and communicated to me the substance of a despatch which he had received from M. de Moustier, which was as follows:—

M. de Moustier can only answer the questions which I had put as to the nature and scope of the proposed inquiry into the condition of Crete by stating what were, on this point, the views of the French Government. For those of other Powers he could not answer.

He believes Her Majesty's Government will agree with him in thinking that the initiative of any measures that may require to be taken ought to rest with the Porte. The Sultan should by a Decree declare the formation of the Commission of Inquiry. The Representatives of the different Powers should, on the invitation of the Sultan, designate respectively the Delegates who should accompany the Turkish Commissioners; and the presence of these Delegates would ensure the sincerity and good faith with which the investigation would be conducted.

Such is the combination which seems to M. de Moustier fittest to conciliate the various interests concerned. He has spoken in this sense to M. Budberg, who appeared

to acquiesce; but he does not know whether the Russian Government will think this proposal goes far enough. He hopes that Her Majesty's Government will regard it as likely to be acceptable to both parties, and will accordingly use its influence to induce the Porte to accept the arrangement suggested.

I asked the French Ambassador what was to be the precise object to which this inquiry should be directed, as it did not appear to be stated either in this despatch or in that which he had previously communicated to me.

His Excellency answered that, in his personal opinion, the presence, as proposed, of Turkish members on the Commission would be a sufficient guarantee that the question to be raised was not that of the cession of the island. The object, as he understood it, was to ascertain the real wants of the Cretans with a view to administrative reforms. The Porte, he added, had in principle already consented to take this step by sending for representatives of the island to meet at Constantinople: but the manner of selecting these had not been such as to inspire any confidence in the result of the proceeding.

I said that if the Commission of Inquiry was to be composed as stated above, I saw no danger that could arise from it; but I still thought it would be desirable to know more exactly the points to which the inquiry was to be directed. I asked further how it was proposed that the Commission should deal with those districts in which war was still being carried on.

To this Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne replied that the Commission would probably suggest a suspension of hostilities; but the presence of Turkish Commissioners would be a security that no such demand would be made in a sense hostile to the interests of the Porte.

I said that I saw with pleasure that this conversation had brought us nearer to an agreement than we had been hitherto, though it appeared to me that there were still one or two points that required to be cleared up.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 140.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 24.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 13, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copy of a despatch of yesterday's date, which I have this day received from Mr. Consul Lloyd, respecting the transport in the "Arkadi" to Crete of 650 volunteers, and announcing the return of that vessel to Syra with Cretan families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 140.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, May* 12, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the "Arkadi," which left Syra on Thursday, the 9th instant, at half-past 8 A.M., for Crete, returned here to-day at half-past 1 P.M.

On leaving Syra the "Arkadi" proceeded to Gythium, where she arrived at about 9 P.M. of the same day, and having taken Major Dimitrakorakos and some 650 volunteers on board, started on the 10th at 4 P.M. for Crete, and arrived at Sitia, in the district of Melopotami, at 9 P.M. of the 11th, where she discharged all her cargo and volunteers, and took on board some Cretan families, 102 in all, of which twelve only are old men, and the rest women and children. She finished everything at half-past 2 A.M. of this day, and returned here without meeting any Turkish cruizers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 141.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 24.)

(Extract.) *Athens, May 16, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a French translation of the bulletin issued this morning by the Cretan Commission here in regard to the intelligence received last night, as to the abortive attempt of Omer Pasha to penetrate into Sphakia.

This intelligence, as your Lordship will, doubtless, observe, corroborates the account given by Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, of the atrocities perpetrated by the troops under Omer Pasha; but it is very probable that the statements in question are derived from the same sources as those furnished by Mr. Calocherino to Mr. Consul Dickson.

The body of volunteers under Dimitrakorakos, who were recently landed at Sitia, are said to have reached the high plateau of Lesethes, in the east of Crete, and will there become the nucleus of an active insurrectionary movement in that part of the island.

Typhus fever is said to be very prevalent on board the Egyptian vessels of war.

Inclosure in No. 141.

Bulletin of Cretan Commission, published May 16, 1867.

(Traduction.)

LES nouvelles de Candie vont jusqu'au $\frac{1}{13}$ Mai.

Après le double et complet échec du 23 Avril de Mehmet Pacha à Crapi et d'Omer Pacha à Callicrate, les Turcs n'ont pas entrepris une nouvelle attaque.

D'après les dernières nouvelles, Omer Pacha est partie avec toutes ses troupes pour Rethymne. Ainsi sa première expédition, entreprise il y a vingt-deux jours contre Sphakia, peut être considérée comme terminée et entièrement échouée. On assure que s'il ne reçoit pas de nouveaux et puissants renforts il ne hasardera pas une nouvelle attaque.

Voici le résumé de ce qui s'est passé depuis l'arrivée d'Omer Pacha en Crète, c'est-à-dire, durant l'espace des trente-six derniers jours.

Les Chrétiens ont gagné depuis lors les cinq victoires suivantes :—

1. Celle du 6 Avril à Apocorona sous le commandement de Costa Vouloudaki (vieux Costaros), de Mathieu et d'autres. Plus de 200 Turcs furent tués.

2. Celle du 7 Avril à Tilissos d'Heraclion, sous le commandement de Coracas, de Coronéos, de Petropoulakis et d'autres. Plus de 350 Turcs furent tués.

3. Celle des 17 et 18 Avril à Kéramia près de la Canée, sous le commandement de Criari et de Hadji Michali. Plus de 60 Turcs furent tués.

4. Celle du 22 Avril près des défilés de Crapi. Mehmet Pacha, avec une armée de 5,000 hommes, fut battu et mis en fuite. Il laissa quelques morts sur le champ de bataille et fut poursuivi par les insurgés jusqu'à ses tentes. Les Chrétiens n'eurent que 15 tués ou blessés.

5. Le même jour, fête de St. Georges, près du village d'Argyropolis, devant les défilés de Callicrate les troupes Turques, commandées par Omer Pacha, furent repousées avec de grandes pertes et poursuivies pendant une heure par les insurgés. Dans ce combat beaucoup furent tués. Plus de 350 blessés furent transportés à Rethymne et à Souda.

Voici d'un autre coté ce que l'armée commandée par Omer Pacha a fait dans l'espace des trente-six jours :—

1. Elle a détruit tous les blés dans l'Apocorona et dans la Province de Rethymne, au moment où l'on s'apprêtait à en faire la moisson.

2. Elle a tué quatre primats des villages, Georgouli d'Argyropoules, Déli et Pappanicolaki de Filoca, et un autre. Ces hommes s'étaient présentés au général Ottoman comme délégués des villages.

3. Elle a brûlé les villages d'Episcopi, d'Arcoudæna, de Coufia, de Caroti, et treize autres.

4. Elle a tué près de 100 femmes et enfants du village de Coufia.

5. Au village de Dariviaca, après avoir souillé l'église et brisé les saintes images elle a tué une femme de soixante-dix ans et deux enfants de dix à quinze ans trouvés seuls dans le village.

Mais ces triomphes des Turcs, au lieu d'effrayer et d'abattre la révolution, l'ont au contraire animée d'une nouvelle ardeur. Le nombre des insurgés sous les armes augmente tous les jours. Après le dernier et complet échec d'Omer Pacha, tous ont pris

les armes dans toute l'île, les pertes des nôtres dans les derniers combats ont été insignifiantes ; ils conservent tous leurs positions. M. Zimbrakakis se trouve, d'après les dernières nouvelles, à Sphakia, et Coronéos, dont les Turcs avaient dit qu'il était mort, pour consoler et encourager les leurs, se trouve vivant à Asphendamé.

Après le débarquement d'un corps de volontaires dans les districts orientaux, les Turcs ont été saisis de frayeur, et Omer Pacha s'est hâté, ainsi que nous l'avons dit, de se retirer d'Episcopi et de se diriger vers la forteresse de Rethymne. D'Héraclion on s'est empressé immédiatement d'envoyer avec un bateau à vapeur, pour renforcer la garnison de la forteresse de Spinalonga, un corps de 200 hommes, et à Héraclion il a été envoyé par mer à bord d'un vaisseau 200 cavaliers Circassiens.

La fièvre typhoïde a paru dans l'armée Turque. Le médecin d'Omer Pacha, Fénerlis, atteint de cette maladie, a été transporté à la Canée.

Espérons dans le courage des héros de la Crète et dans la toute puissance du grand Dieu des Chrétiens.

(Translation.)

NEWS from Crete up to May $\frac{1}{13}$.

After the double and complete check of Mehmet Pasha at Crapi on the 23rd of April, and of Omer Pasha at Callicrate, the Turks had not ventured again on an attack.

According to the last advices, Omer Pasha had left with all his troops for Retimo. Thus his first expedition, undertaken twenty-two days ago against Sphakia, may be considered as at an end, and as having completed failed. It is confidently asserted that should he not receive new and powerful reinforcements, he will not risk a new attack.

This is the summary of what has taken place since the arrival of Omer Pasha in Crete, that is to say, during the space of the last thirty-six days.

Since then the Christians have gained the five following victories :—

1. That of the 6th of April at Apocorona, under the command of Costa Vouloudaki (old Costaros), of Mathieu, and others. More than 200 Turks fell.

2. That of the 7th of April at Tilissos d'Heraclion, under the command of Coracas, of Coronéos, of Petropoulakis, and others. More than 350 Turks fell.

3. That of the 17th and 18th April at Keramia, near Canea, under the command of Criari and Hadji Michali. More than 60 Turks fell.

4. That of the 22nd of April, near the defiles of Crapi. Mehmet Pasha, with an army of 5,000 men, was beaten and put to flight. He left some dead on the field of battle, and was pursued by the insurgents as far as his tents. The Christians had only 15 killed and wounded.

5. The same day, the feast of St. George, near the village of Argyropolis, before the defiles of Callicrate, the Turkish troops commanded by Omer Pasha were repulsed with great losses, and pursued during an hour by the insurgents. Many were killed in this combat. More than 350 wounded were transported to Retimo and to Suda.

This, on the other hand, is what the army commanded by Omer Pasha has done in the space of thirty-six days :—

1. They have destroyed all the corn in Apocorona and in the Province of Retimo, just as they were on the point of commencing harvest.

2. They have killed four primates of villages, Georgouli of Argyropoules, Déli, and Pappanicolaki of Filoca, and another. These men had presented themselves to the Ottoman General as Delegates from the villages.

3. They have burned the villages of Episcopi, Arcoudæna, Confia, Caroti, and thirteen others.

4. They have killed nearly one hundred women and children of the village of Coufia.

In the village of Dariviaca, after having defiled the church and broken the holy images, they killed a woman aged seventy, and two children from ten to fifteen years of age, who were found alone in the village.

But these triumphs of the Turks, instead of creating a panic and crushing the revolution, have on the contrary given it fresh life. The number of insurgents under arms increases every day. After the last and complete check of Omer Pasha, all took up arms throughout the island. Our losses in the last combats have been insignificant : we hold our positions. M. Zimbrakakis, according to the latest accounts, is at Sfakia, and Coroneos, who was stated by the Turks to be dead to console and encourage their men, is alive at Asphendamé.

After the landing of a corps of volunteers in the Eastern districts, the Turks were

seized with a panic, and Omer Pasha hastened, as we have said, to retire to Episcopi, and to make for the fortress of Retimo. A body of 200 men were immediately dispatched from Heraclium in a steamer, to reinforce the garrison of Spinalunga, and 200 Circassian horsemen were dispatched by sea to Heraclium.

Typhoid fever has appeared in the Turkish army. Fénerlis, Omer Pasha's doctor, has been attacked by this disease, and has been transported to Canea.

Let us put our trust in the heroes of Crete, and in the almighty power of the God of the Christians.

No. 142.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 24.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, May* 16, 1867.

THE intelligence received at the Porte differs, as usual, very widely from that transmitted to Athens.

The Grand Vizier has informed me that by the steam-frigate "Ismaelieh," which arrived the night before last in forty-eight hours from Crete, he has received reports from the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, up to the 12th instant, that is to say, one day later than the latest news in the Athens telegrams. Omer Pasha (it would appear) reports that two engagements took place last week near the passes of Sfakia, between the insurgents and the divisions of Ferik Hassan Pasha and Ferik Mehemed Pasha; that on both occasions the insurgents were worsted and compelled to retreat to the mountains; that he himself was at Retimo, and intended to set out on the following Monday (the 13th instant) for Sfakia in order to carry into effect his long-contemplated plan.

In the absence of any information from impartial sources, I can only submit to your Lordship the Turkish official version of recent occurrences, in order that it may be compared with the intelligence which reaches you from other quarters.

No. 143.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 24.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, May* 20, 1866.

BARON BEUST told me to-day that he regretted to hear from Count Apponyi that his last despatch respecting the affairs of Turkey had failed to induce your Lordship to adopt the plan he had therein set forth of sending Commissioners to Crete, and taking measures for the removal of the foreign volunteers from the island, and establishing a sort of mediation between the Porte and her revolted subjects.

I observed to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government could not, under present circumstances, join in any measures such as he had proposed, and that until something positive was known as to the result of Omer Pasha's expedition, Her Majesty's Government would not be inclined to interfere. To do so at this moment would, I said, be contrary to the policy we had always pursued in such cases, and to what we considered our international duties.

No. 144.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 26.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, copy of an interesting Report which has been addressed to me by M. Sapunzachi, the Chancelier of the Syra Consulate, who, in consequence of the indisposition of Mr. Consul Lloyd, has furnished me with the particulars of the "Arkadi's" last trip to Crete, by which your Lordship will perceive that she succeeded, not only in landing her cargo on the south coast of the island, but in carrying off a large number of destitute families, although constantly pursued and harassed by the Turkish cruizers.

The "Arkadi" has since brought the whole of these unfortunate persons, to the number of 500 or 600, to the Piræus, and I understand that arrangements have been

made for sending them to Argos, where they will be lodged in a large military barrack.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 144.

Mr. Sapunzachi to Mr. Erskine.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Health Office, Syra, May* 16, 1867, 8·45 A.M.

THIS moment the "Arkadi" arrived here, amidst great rejoicings of the people.

The "Arkadi" left Syra on the $\frac{2nd}{14th}$ instant at 1·5 A.M., steamed round by Cerigo, turned round Cape Crio, about thirty miles distant, and arrived near to the Island of Vodo at 6 P.M.; lay-to an hour and a half for the night, and then steamed at full speed towards Lutro of Sphakia.

At 9·30 P.M., distant about three miles from Lutro, discovered a frigate lying there at anchor; turned round and ran to Agia-Roumeli. When arrived at anchorage, discovered a Turkish man-of-war coming towards us from Selino, at 9·45 P.M., when turned, and steamed at about five miles into Archipelago, then turned and ran towards Agio-Vassili. Discovered a corvette lying at Frango-Castelli; turned round and ran back to Vouva; arrived at 11·35 P.M., and commenced immediately to land the Volunteers and cargo, the corvette making all haste to get up steam.

At 1·5 A.M., May $\frac{3}{15}$, discovered a frigate at a short distance coming towards us from Sphakia. Boats all called in, and steamed out with about one-third of the cargo undischarged, and a few families taken on board. Chased by the frigate, and the corvette coming up from Frango-Castelli and joining in the chase, each of them throwing up rockets, and a few rockets sent up by the "Arkadi," the frigate firing several shots which splashed in the water some distance from us; a dense volume of black smoke and great flame issuing from funnel of frigate, and both men of war continuing to let off rockets.

After steaming out about six miles we turned and ran towards Cape Crio.

2·50 A.M.—At Tripiti we passed a gun-boat lying at anchor, which was signalled to by the frigate and joined in the chase.

At 3·40 A.M., opposite Cape Crio, we turned, and left the frigate about eight miles in the rear; then turned again, passing the advancing Turks without being seen, and ran back to Vouva, arriving at same anchorage at 7·5 A.M., and discharged the remainder of the cargo, and took on board a few more families.

8·40 A.M.—Left Vouva immediately afterwards, discovering the frigate about fifteen miles distant making towards us, with the corvette in the rear. We ran along the coast and stopped at Rodakino at 9·15 A.M., where we took on board a great number of families and some wounded, and had just time to steam away before the frigate came up to us, which gave us chase and fired two heavy shots at us. "Arkadi" running along the coast to the eastward, and passed one of the two-funnel paddle-boats at anchor at Timbaki of Messara (the frigate giving up the chase), and turned in towards her, the "Arkadi" steaming straight on round the east end of Crete for Syra.

She brought about 600 souls, women and children, and ten wounded Volunteers, and the son of Colonel Visandio and the two Botzarakia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EMMANUEL SAPUNZACHI.

No. 145.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 27.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, May* 13, 1867.

IN a letter received from Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino, and of which I have the honour to inclose a translation, your Lordship will find an account of the late operations of the expeditionary force. I am at the same time informed, from a Cretan source, that on the 3rd, 4th, and 6th instant, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, fighting has been incessant in the vicinity of Argyroupolo or Gaïdaropolis, between the Ottoman troops and the insurgents, resulting in a loss, it is further said, of some 1,800 of the former killed and wounded, besides 20 prisoners.

A woman, by name Catterina, disguised in the garb of an insurgent volunteer, was

amongst the slain. It was only after her death and as her body was being quartered that her sex was discovered. The cutting up of their dead and removing the fragments is a practice frequently resorted to even by the Cretans, particularly if the corpse be that of a chieftain or some dear relative. This is done in order that it may not be exposed to violation at the hands of the Turkish soldiery.

Omer Pasha arrived at Retimo Town on the 10th, where his head-quarters are for the present established.

Ali Riza Pasha, at the head of 8,000 troops, having marched the day before yesterday towards Alikianu and Furneh, has since returned to Galata and St. Marina. This movement may have been intended as a feint and to divert the enemy's forces to Omalos.

The fact complained of by Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino in the accompanying letter, of peaceable Cretans not being allowed to take provisions, however small the quantity, out of town to their village, is a measure in force at all the fortresses, Canea not excepted. I cannot too strongly deprecate such a proceeding, the practical result of which would be to drive the able-bodied to the mountains while starving numbers of helpless families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 145.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, May* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state to you that since the engagement of the 19th ultimo, as I informed you in my despatch of the 22nd, no other engagement has taken place.

In accordance with the reports the local authorities have received, the insurgents possess the village Rogdia, the Convent of Savathiana, the village Fotheles, and many other villages in Mylopotamo and Amari.

Reshid Pasha, with some irregulars, has been to-day close to the village of Rogdia, and having made a reconnaissance returned home this evening. His Excellency said that he saw some insurgents at the above-mentioned village, and at the Convent of Savathiana.

The authorities have for these last days refused altogether to let the peaceful Greek villagers purchase any provisions of grain, &c., and carry them to their villages from this town; the villagers therefore complain that in consequence of this measure of the authorities, although they have already lost every kind of provision on account of the insurrection, they must leave their families to starve and go themselves and join the other insurgents. The authorities, on the other hand, pretend that the said villagers purchase provisions from the city and carry them to their villages, and in secret they afford some assistance to the insurgents. This measure has, however, created dissatisfaction and excitement amongst the Greek population; and I hope the authorities will soon adopt other measures more humane and conciliatory than this of causing the poor women and children of the villages to starve, and, besides, I am afraid that such measuresa s those adopted, instead of producing any good practical result for tranquillizing the island would rather give greater strength to the insurrection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 145.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, Crete,* $\frac{\text{April } 24}{\text{May } 6}$, 1867.

ON the $\frac{12}{24}$th of last month, the Cretan Turks belonging to this town, numbering 600 persons, left this and proceeded to the villages of Atzipopulo and Priné, and although the inhabitants declared that they had given in their submission, these Turks sacked and destroyed everything they found, even to felling the trees, &c.

On the $\frac{14}{26}$th this same body having been joined by others and now numbering more than 1,000, went on to the district of St. Vassili with the intention of committing similar acts; the armed Christians, however, having been previously informed of their intentions,

attacked them at the village Lampinin, from three different positions, and after three hours' continued fire obliged them to retire to the village Karès. The next day the Ottomans returned to this city; on their way they destroyed all that came in their way. In the village of Tzaribianà they totally destroyed the church, breaking down the images and ornaments and otherwise polluting it; in the village they murdered an old woman 70 years of age, as also two boys aged 10 to 15 years; added to this, they brought by land and by sea considerable quantities of booty, &c., from the villages that had submitted.

On the $\frac{19\text{th April}}{1\text{st May}}$, at 4 P.M., a force of 5,000 regulars and irregulars left Retimo Town and proceeded to Episkopi and other villages, to meet the insurgents. Nothing, however, transpired, and the next day they advanced to the village Argyroupolo (or Gaïdoropolis), where an encounter took place which lasted the whole of the day.

The Turks having got possession of Argyroupolo, burnt it, as also the villages of Kaufi, Karuti, Arkudianà, and Episopi. In the latter, three houses were left standing, to be used as hospitals for the sick and wounded.

On the $\frac{21\text{st April}}{3\text{rd May}}$, this force joined the force who are with Omer Pasha, who was proceeding in the direction of Sfakia, an engagement occurred at Azona, which lasted eight hours, and the troops were obliged to fall back upon Argyroupolo.

The $\frac{22\text{nd April}}{4\text{th May}}$, in this village, the Christians again fought with the Turks.

On the $\frac{23\text{rd April}}{25\text{th May}}$, the army under the command of Omer Pasha, proceeding towards Sphakia, the Christians were engaged for three hours, while the troops were passing near Argyroupolo; both sides fought with great bravery, but the Turks were obliged to retire to Episkopi.

The same night the insurgents descended quite near to the Turkish camp, and caused them great losses, spreading confusion all through the camp. The losses of the Turks are supposed to be very great; certain it is, that sixty-seven wounded have been brought into this town, and a steamer has arrived here, bringing an order for reinforcements. Such irregulars as are not inclined to join the army are to be subjected to an imprisonment of six months.

The army remains at present in the same position, encamped at Episkopi; the insurgents, on the other hand, hold firmly their positions, watching the movements of Omer Pasha.

On leaving the town, the troops took by force all the animals of burden they could find, to carry ammunition, &c.; many of the owners accompanying them to get back their animals, were murdered on the road by the soldiery, and many other unarmed persons have met the same fate. These acts are committed both by regulars and irregulars, and under the eyes of their superior officers.

We learn to-day that the "Arkadi" has landed at Bali volunteers, ammunition, &c.

A quantity of olive oil was brought here by a Turkish steamer, collected from the villages. Since its arrival many of the sailors and others of the steamer are purchasing empty skins to bring in more oil.

Just as I am closing my letter, I am informed, from a reliable source, that more than 100 women and children have been massacred in the village of Kurna, by the Turkish troops.

These had previously surrendered to Omer Pasha. Many trees, more than 2,000, have been burnt; and all the grain crops have been trodden down and consumed by the Pasha's horses, mules, &c.

I have also been informed that four of the principal inhabitants of Argyroupolo, named Georgoulis, Pzilis, and Papamanolakis, from the village Philaki, came down as representatives of their village, and presented themselves to Omer Pasha, to renew their tender of submission, and that of the inhabitants.

Omer Pasha replied, that he could not accept anything as Mustapha did, and gave orders that they should be beheaded, which was immediately done.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 146.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord, *Foreign Office, May* 27, 1867.

THE Austrian Ambassador called upon me to-day, and communicated to me a despatch from Baron Beust to the following effect:—

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Bloomfield.

Baron Beust says, that the Austrian Government has declined for the moment the French and Russian propositions respecting Candia, and he gives Count Apponyi an account of a conversation which he had had with the French Ambassador on the subject.

Baron Beust expresses his anxiety to learn the definitive decision of the British Cabinet, without whose concurrence he believes any step taken at Constantinople will be fruitless. He is led to believe that the British Government is not inclined to take the initiative in a counter proposition, and he regrets this passive attitude on their part in the face of the dangerous complications now existing.

The opportunity, Baron Beust goes on to say, appears favourable for the employment by England of some kind of mediation, having for object to reconcile the demands of Russia, supported by France, and the resistance at present offered to them by Turkey.

He considers an understanding among the great Powers to be absolutely necessary, if serious disturbances are to be avoided. Candia is only an episode, and the whole situation of the Turkish Provinces must be taken into consideration if a real pacification is to be arrived at.

I told Count Apponyi, in answer, that Her Majesty's Government were by no means disposed to remain, if it could be avoided, in a position of isolation on this question; that they desired as much as any one the cessation of this unhappy war; and that from the tenor of my latest communications with the French Ambassador, I did not despair of an agreement being come to between us. I was convinced that the Sultan would never cede the island, unless compelled to do so; but so far as the granting of local autonomy went, Her Majesty's Government had recommended that in January last, and nothing that had passed since had tended to alter their opinion. As for the Commission proposed by the French Government, some difficulties of detail undoubtedly existed, but they were not necessarily insuperable. I thought, however, that the initiative of such a Commission ought to rest with the Porte.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 147.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 31.)

My Lord, *Vienna, May* 27, 1867.

SINCE the arrival of the copies of correspondence on the affairs of Crete, I have seen Baron Beust, and had some conversation with his Excellency respecting this question.

He told me to-day that the Duc de Grammont had made him a further communication, and that the French Government were now disposed to act less decidedly in this affair than they appeared inclined to do some weeks ago, and would now be satisfied with the formation of a Turkish Commission of Inquiry to be sent to the island, to which delegates from foreign Powers should be joined.

I told Baron Beust that your Lordship had communicated to me the substance of a conversation you had had on the 23rd instant with the French Ambassador, which entirely confirmed the impression he had received from the communication of the Duc de Gramont, but that Her Majesty's Government were still desirous to obtain more exact information as to the points to which the inquiry was to be directed, and as to the manner in which it was proposed that the Commissioners should deal with those districts in which war was still being carried on.

I observed also to his Excellency, that as the French Government seemed inclined to leave the initiative in the arrangement of the proposed Commission to Turkey, and to give satisfactory explanations on other points connected with the affair, the chance of our coming to an understanding with France was very much improved.

I asked if Baron Prokesch had done anything more than support the appeal addressed to the Porte by France, Russia, Prussia, and Italy, to order a suspension of hostilities.

Baron Beust replied that he had sent him no instructions to act further, and as the Porte had shown no willingness to yield to the representations of the Powers, he did not wish the Internuncio to take any hasty steps at the present stage of the proceedings; but he must nevertheless consider what was to be done next, and give him some hints for his guidance, adding that he sincerely hoped an identity of views would be adopted between

the three Powers, Austria, England, and France, on the question of the Island of Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BLOOMFIELD.

No. 148.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 31.)

(Extract.) *Paris, May 30, 1867.*

I HAVE had some further conversation this afternoon with M. de Moustier upon Eastern affairs.

Referring to the communications which have lately passed between the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne and your Lordship upon the subject of Candia, and more particularly to your Lordship's desire for further information as to the views of the French Government, M. de Moustier observed that the relative situations of France and England with regard to this question were essentially different.

I replied, that M. de Moustier must of course be the best judge of the policy most conducive to the general interests of France; that it would not become a foreign Representative to discuss such a question with him. His Excellency asked for the participation of Her Majesty's Government in an inquiry to be instituted in Candia, with the consent, if not on the initiative, of the Porte; and Her Majesty's Government, before giving an answer, wished to be informed what was to be the precise object of this inquiry, and where it was to lead them. Until this information should be given, I could not give his Excellency any hope that Her Majesty's Government, much and sincerely as they desired to act with the Imperial Government, would recommend or participate in the inquiry.

M. de Moustier said that a recital of what had lately passed between the French and Austrian Governments might, perhaps, give your Lordship a better insight into the views of the former. The Austrian Government, referring to the proposal of a Commission of Inquiry, had asked how the wishes of the Candiots were to be ascertained. Was it by means of universal suffrage or otherwise? If the former, the Austrian Government could not take part in the inquiry. To this question he had replied, that the system of universal suffrage was hardly applicable to the state of Candia; that his notion was, that a Turkish Commission, accompanied by foreign delegates, should go from town to town, and from village to village, to inquire into the local grievances, and into the general condition of the inhabitants. The Austrian Government had expressed itself to be satisfied with this explanation.

The Austrian Government had further remarked, that in the exchange of communications which had taken place between the Cabinets of Paris, Vienna, and St. Petersburgh, it had been suggested that the Porte should be informed, that a further refusal on its part to comply with the proposals which had been made to it, would entail a coldness in the relations between the Porte and those Powers. This expression might mean much or little.

I told M. de Moustier that I did not think expedients of this nature likely to satisfy Her Majesty's Government. There was also, I believed, another point on which the Russian Government had insisted, namely, the sending of ships of war to bring away any families which might desire to be transported from Candia; did the French Government, I asked, concur in this project? M. de Moustier replied, that he had treated this question apart, as one of humanity and not of policy; that he had informed the Russian Government that unless he could see his way to a proper provision being made for the families which might emigrate, he could not take the responsibility of helping to remove them.

I observed, that in this matter the question of policy could hardly be separated from that of humanity. What, I asked, would be the consequence of French and Russian ships of war appearing in the waters of Candia? What, but encouragement to the insurrection? Surely the employment of ships of war could not be necessary for a measure said to be purely philanthropic. Merchant ships would do as well, or better. M. de Moustier agreed in this view.

I then said, that if M. de Moustier really desired the participation of Her Majesty's Government in any further proceedings, I would recommend him to draw up instructions for the French Ambassador at Constantinople, providing for every contingency which could be foreseen, and submit them for the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. I

remarked, for instance, that his Excellency had never replied to a question which I had put to him the last time we had conversed on this subject, namely, what he proposed to do in case the Christian inhabitants of Candia, either voluntarily or incited thereto by Russia, should insist before the Commission upon separation from Turkey.

M. de Moustier replied, that every instruction which he had sent to M. Bourrée had been transmitted in copy to the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne for communication to your Lordship. I rejoined that my remarks had applied, not to instructions already given, but to those in contemplation.

If there was to be a common basis of action, instructions must be framed in common. On my pressing M. de Moustier again for an answer to my question respecting the separation of Candia from Turkey, his Excellency said, that he should be satisfied with the autonomy of Candia under the sovereignty of the Sultan, and that he hoped to bring Prince Gortchakoff to this view of the question. If this autonomy could be granted under a Christian Governor, he should have better hopes of success, though he must candidly admit that he knew of no Christian to whom the task could be confided.

M. de Moustier expresses himself as most anxious that the Porte should take the initiative in instituting reforms.

No. 149.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 1.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 22, 1867.

SEVEN of the Christian Delegates who came from Crete to communicate with the Porte on the affairs of the island have abruptly left Constantinople. They addressed to me, and I believe to the Representatives of Austria, of France, of Greece, of Italy, of Prussia, of Russia, and of the United States of America, a letter accompanied by a French translation. I have the honour to inclose a copy of the translation.

The Grand Vizier emphatically denies the truth of the assertion in this paper that the Cretan Deputies have not been consulted nor asked to furnish information. He says that the proceedings of the Commission appointed to confer with the Deputies are matters of public notoriety. It was, he observes, originally presided over by himself. Afterwards a sub-Commission, composed of six Turks and Christians, was appointed to go on with the inquiries into the wants and grievances of the Cretans, and to report to the Council of Ministers. The Commission has held several meetings, at which the Delegates have always been present; it is still attending to its duties.

The thirteen remaining Christian Delegates, as soon as they heard of the departure of the seven seceders, waited upon the Grand Vizier, and protested against them in strong terms. The document which was sent to the Foreign Missions, was not, His Highness observes, the work of the Delegates themselves, but of the foreign partisans of the Cretan insurrection who induced them to go away.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 149.

Letter addressed by Cretan Delegates to Lord Lyons.

(Traduction.)

NOUS soussignés, en qualité de soi-disant élus Représentants de nos Provinces, bien qu'ayant déjà protesté en temps utile contre cette prétendue élection, nous vinmes cependant ici par crainte et dans l'espoir que le Gouvernement Ottoman se serait au moins informé auprès de nous des plaintes et des malheurs du peuple de Crète notre patrie, et nous aurait consulté sur les moyens qui seraient les plus propres à réparer le mal qui y a déjà été commis. L'allocution qui nous était adressée les premiers jours de notre arrivée par Sa Majesté le Sultan nous confirmait dans ce dernier espoir. Cependant les jours se succédaient aux jours et personne n'a pensé à nous, ni pour nous demander des informations ni pour nous consulter sur les intérêts de notre patrie, et nous ignorons même absolument ce qui se passe dans des Conseils tenus à ce sujet. La circonstance que nous

ne nous considérons pas comme légalement élus par nos concitoyens n'empêche pas que pour l'acquit de notre conscience et en honnêtes gens nous nous croyons tenus d'éviter de devenir l'instrument de quelque machination politique et d'encourir la juste reproche de trahir notre patrie. Pour ces raisons nous avons pris la résolution, au lieu de perdre en vain notre temps à Constantinople, de quitter cette ville avec l'aide de Dieu ayant la conscience légère et dégagé de toute responsabilité. En foi de quoi nous publions notre présente pour tenir lieu de protestation, car bien que venus ici contre notre gré nous n'avons pas été malgré cela ni questionnés ni consultés, et n'avons pris part à aucun acte quelconque relatif à l'intérêt national de notre patrie ; et nous adressons le présent écrit revêtu de nos propres signatures aux sept Légations,* celles des Grandes Puissances et celle de la Grèce notre mère, en invoquant leurs puissantes garde et protection en faveur de nos familles innocentes qui se trouvent en Crète.

Fait et signé à Constantinople, le $\frac{2 \text{ Avril}}{7 \text{ Mai}}$, 1867.

(Signé) JEAN MOURELAKI.
HADGI N. TOUTOUNDJKI.
APOSTOLOS CHERETTI.
NICHOLAS MANOUSSAKI.
DEMETRIUS MALAGARDI.
GEORGES CAPNISTOS.
JEAN DASCALAKI.

(Translation.)

WE the Undersigned, in the quality of the so-called chosen Representatives of our provinces, although we had already protested in good time against this pretended election, came here impelled by fear and in the hope that the Ottoman Government would at least have inquired of us respecting the complaints and misfortunes of the people of Crete, our country, and would have consulted us as to the best measures for repairing the evil which has already been wrought there. The address which was made to us by His Majesty the Sultan when we first arrived, confirmed us in this latter hope. Still, day after day passed and no one thought of referring to us, either to obtain information or to consult us as to the interests of our country, and we are even absolutely ignorant of what takes place in the Councils held on that subject. The circumstance that we do not consider ourselves as legally chosen by our fellow-citizens does not prevent us, in order to satisfy our conscience and to act as honest men, from considering ourselves bound to avoid becoming the instrument of some political machination and to incur the just reproach of betraying our country. For these reasons we have taken the resolution, instead of losing our time in Constantinople, of leaving this town, with the help of God having a good conscience and free from all responsibility. In faith of which we publish this present, to serve as a protest, for although we came here against our wish in spite of that we have neither been questioned nor consulted, and we have taken part in no act relative to the national interest of our country ; and we address the present document, with our proper signatures attached, to the seven Legations,* those of the Great Powers and that of Greece our mother, invoking their powerful defence and protection in favour of our innocent families who are in Greece.

Done and signed at Constantinople, $\frac{\text{April } 25}{\text{May } 7}$, 1867.

(Signed) JEAN MOURELAKI.
HADGI N. TOUTOUNDJKI.
APOSTOLOS CHERETTI.
NICHOLAS MANOUSSAKI.
DEMETRIUS MALAGARDI.
GEORGES CAPNISTOS.
JEAN DASCALAKI.

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* Of England, France, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Italy, and America.

No. 150.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 1, 1867.

THE Turkish Ambassador communicated to me to-day the substance of a telegram from Fuad Pasha, dated the 29th ultimo, expressing the hope of the Porte that the British Government would continue to act on the policy that it has hitherto pursued in regard to Cretan affairs, as it appeared that neither Austria nor France would take any further step in the matter without the co-operation of England.

I told M. Musurus, in reply, that as to the establishment of local autonomy, Her Majesty's Government had recommended it before, as your Excellency will find in my despatch of the 17th of January last, and that they should do so again if the opportunity occurred. But they had never proposed the cession of Candia to Greece, nor the consultation of the wishes of the inhabitants by means of universal suffrage as to whether their connection with Turkey should or should not continue.

I agreed with M. Musurus that the initiative of reforms to be adopted should rest with the Sultan; and as to the suspension of hostilities, I admitted that I saw difficulties in the way of advising it, as matters now stood: but on that point I wished to reserve my opinion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 151.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, June* 1, 1867.

THE Marquis d'Azeglio called upon me this morning, and read to me a despatch from Signor Campello, in reply to one addressed by him to that Minister, on the 25th of May.

From this it seemed that the Marquis d'Azeglio had informed his Government that the British Government proposed to re-enter the European concert in regard to Eastern affairs, by supporting the proposal of France that local autonomy should be granted to Crete.

Signor Campello says that the Italian Government are glad to learn this; and that it appears to them that such a proposal, supported by all the Powers, is more likely to succeed than one for the total cession of the island, or for allowing the inhabitants to determine by universal suffrage what their future position should be.

Italy, the Marquis d'Azeglio is instructed to say, adheres to this new proposal, which she trusts will not be rejected by the Porte. But there are difficulties in the way of giving effect to it, inasmuch as the Cretans are a mixed population; and it would not be easy to form a mixed Administration, nor yet to separate the races, as in the Lebanon; and it would be necessary to consider how this objection could be dealt with.

I stated to the Marquis d'Azeglio that the statement as to the present re-entrance of England into the European concert on Eastern affairs was not strictly correct; but that, in point of fact, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, so long ago as the 17th of January last, was instructed to recommend to the Porte that a Christian Governor, under the authority of the Sultan, should be established in Crete, with a Council in which Christians and Mussulmans should have an equal voice.

We then discussed in detail the observations made by Signor Campello, and I expressed pleasure at the general concurrence of the views of our respective Governments; and I explained to the Marquis d'Azeglio, at some length, the reasons which restrained Her Majesty's Government from pressing interference on the Porte beyond what we had already done. I refrained, however, from giving him a definite answer on the subject of measures to be hereafter taken.

No. 152.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 1, 1867.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 30th ultimo, reporting the substance of a further conversation which you have had with M. de Moustier upon Eastern affairs; and I entirely approve the language which your Excellency held on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 153.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, reporting the voyage to Crete of the "Arkadi," and her return to Syra with Cretan families. A similar report was forwarded to your Lordship in Mr. Erskine's of May 18th, which was drawn up by the Chancelier of the Syra Consulate, Mr. Lloyd being at the time too indisposed to write himself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. ELLIS

Inclosure in No. 153.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, May* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the "Arkadi," which left Syra at 1·5 A.M., of Tuesday, the 14th instant, with provisions, ammunition, and forty-five volunteers, including two Americans, Major Dekay, and L. D. Rodokanaki (Greek), officer in the American navy, arrived here this day at about 8·30 A.M., and having on board some 600 souls (of which about ten are sick and wounded Cretans and volunteers, and the rest women and children). The "Arkadi" started almost immediately for Piræus. I have been unwell again for some weeks lately and am unable to move about or even to sit down, but Mr. Saponzaki went on board the "Arkadi" the moment she arrived, and having ascertained the following particulars, was landed from the "Arkadi" after she had left the harbour.

On leaving Syra at 1·5 A.M. of the 14th instant, the "Arkadi" steered by Cerigo, and round Cape Crio, distant twenty miles, to near the Island Vido (Gavdo, probably), where she arrived at 6 P.M. of the same day (14th), and where she laid-to an hour and a half, for night, and then steamed full speed for Lutro. At 9·30 P.M., being then three miles distant from Lutro, a frigate was discovered at anchor there; so the "Arkadi" turned round and ran for Agia Roumeli, and when arrived at the anchorage a Turkish Government vessel was seen approaching from Selino, at about 9·45 P.M. The "Arkadi" then turned and steamed out to sea, for the distance of about five miles, and again turned and ran towards Agio Vassili; but discovering a corvette lying at Franco Castelli, the "Arkadi" again turned and ran to Vouva, where she arrived at 11·35 P.M., and commenced discharging volunteers and cargo, the corvette making all haste to get up steam; and at 1·5 A.M. of the 15th, a frigate being seen at a short distance coming from Sphakia, the boats of the "Arkadi" were called in, and she steamed out with about a third of her cargo undischarged, and a few families taken on board, being chased by the frigate, and by the corvette coming up from Franco Castelli, both firing rockets (which were answered by the "Arkadi"), and the frigate firing several shots, which splashed in the water at some distance from her, dense smoke and great flame issuing from the funnel of the frigate. After steaming about six miles, the "Arkadi" ran towards Cape Crio, and at 2·50 A.M. she passed a gun-boat lying at Tripiti, which being signalled by the frigate, joined in the chase. At 3·40 A.M., being opposite Cape Crio, the "Arkadi" turned to the left, leaving the frigate about eight miles in the rear, and then turned again, passing the advancing Turks without being seen, and ran back to Vouva, where she arrived at the same anchorage at

7·5 P.M.; and discharged the remainder of the cargo, and took on board a few more families. At 8·40 A.M. the "Arkadi" left Vouva, and having discovered the frigate about fifteen miles distant making towards her, with the corvette in the rear, the "Arkadi" then ran along the coast, and stopped at Rodakino at 9·15 A M., and there took on board a great number of families, and some sick and wounded, and had just time to get away before the frigate came up, and gave chase, firing two heavy shots at the "Arkadi," which latter, running along the coast to the eastward, passed a two-funnel paddle-boat at anchor off Dibaki in Messara Bay, towards which the frigate went, having given up the chase. The "Arkadi" continued round the south and east of the Island of Crete, and arrived here, as stated, at 8·45 A.M. this day without further incident.

Among the volunteers taken to Vouva by the "Arkadi" were three women, aged 17, 22, and 27, being the wives of Cretans who had left in the Russian frigate last autumn, and who were now returned to join their husbands.

Among the sick and wounded now brought by the "Arkadi" are the son of Colonel Visandio, and the two young Botzaris.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 154.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 23, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a French translation of the bulletin issued this morning by the Cretan Commission at Athens. This bulletin gives an account of what has occurred in Crete up to the 21st instant, and though it may be to a certain extent partial, I cannot but think from what I have heard from other sources, that hitherto Omer Pasha has failed in his attempt to put down the insurrection. Though I doubt whether the insurgents have achieved any great victory, the result of these skirmishes appears to be always the same. The Cretans fight from a protected position, and the natural result of this mode of fighting is that the proportion of killed and wounded is greatly against the Turks.

The amount of Turkish troops in Crete is calculated at 25,000; composed of 20,000 Turkish and Egyptian troops, and 5,000 of Mahometan Cretans, but they are said to be very badly fed. As regards the insurgents they are for the present supposed to be well supplied, and as there seems to be little chance of the Turkish fleet being able to stop the "Arkadi" running the blockade, it seems probable that the insurgents may hold out for some time longer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 154.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Commission.

(Traduction.)

LES nouvelles de Candie vont jusqu'au 9. L'insurrection est dans sa force dans toute l'île.

Omer Pacha désespérant, à ce qu'il paraît, après le double échec du 23 Avril à Crapi et à Callicrate, de pénétrer dans Sphakia, s'est retiré à Réthymne. De là le 30 Avril il est allé au village Messi. Sur leur passage ses troupes ont profané les églises, détruit les propriétés, et commis toutes sortes de barbaries.

Le 1 Mai à Messi il a fait appeler les notables des villages voisins pour leur dire de notifier aux habitants qu'ils doivent se soumettre. Mais le 3 Mai les notables revinrent et lui dirent que la réponse de tous avait été—la liberté ou la mort, et cela parce qu'il avait fait démolir la maison d'un des délégués qui était le curé du village et qu'il avait fait dévaster toutes les propriétés.

Le lendemain, marchant le long de la mer et étant soutenu par cinq bâtiments à vapeur qui longeaient la côte, il est entré dans le district de Mylopotamos. Les troupes commettaient partout sur leur passage toutes sortes de cruautés contre les vieillards désarmés et les femmes sans défense.

Le 6 Mai les insurgés ont attaqué l'avant-garde d'Omer près du village de Vrachimon. Le combat a duré plusieurs heures. Les détails sont encore inconnus. Mais des renforts

ont été immédiatement demandés le 7 Mai par Omer à Réthymne. Il a promis le pillage à tous Musulmans qui voudraient venir à son secours.

Outre ce combat, qui a eu lieu dans le district de Mylopotamos, un autre combat important s'est engagé le 3 Mai dans le district de Malévyzion près d'Héraclion. Les chefs des milices de Malévyzion et Téménos, Charal. Vlachakis et Héracles Cokkinidis, ceux du Mylopotamos oriental, Michel Scoulas et G. Xétrypis, et le Commandant-en-chef des volontaires, Pétropoulakis, avec les philhellènes Jotfried et Desmazes, y ont pris part.

Dans ce combat, qui a duré depuis sept heures du matin jusqu'à huit heures du soir, plus de 60 obus ont été lancés par l'ennemi contre les Chrétiens, et pourtant il n'y a eu parmi ces derniers que trois tués et six blessés, dont un seul grièvement. Les Turcs ont perdu plus de 150 hommes tués ou blessés.

Dans les districts les plus orientaux de l'île un grand rassemblement de Chrétiens s'est formé et fortifié dans le couvent de la Vierge Cardiotissa. Un grand enthousiasme insurrectionnel règne dans ces districts, qui ont accueilli avec une vive joie le renfort de Dimitracaracos.

Mehmet Pacha, craignant une attaque imprévue de la part des insurgés retranchés dans les défilés de Crapi, se fortifie et se retranche à Vrysses, où il reste dans une complète inaction.

De tous les districts occidentaux il part des détachements d'insurgés qui vont dans les districts orientaux à la suite d'Omer Pacha. Celui-ci a ajourné, à ce qu'il parait, indéfiniment son expédition contre Sphakia, se proposant de dévaster l'île et de détruire toutes les propriétés, puisqu'il ne peut par les armes venir à bout de l'insurrection.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de la Crète a adressé par la voie des Consuls à la Canée une nouvelle protestation aux Puissances Chrétiennes de l'Europe contre les actes de barbarie et de cruauté qui signalent la guerre des Turcs contre les Chrétiens de Candie.

Espérons que les Puissances Chrétiennes, qui par tant de sacrifices et par tant de sang ont sauvé la Turquie, ne souffriront pas plus longtemps cette situation scandaleuse qui se prolonge en Crète depuis dix mois entiers. Dieu le veuille pour le bonheur de l'humanité et pour l'honneur de la Chrétienté !

(Translation.)

THE news from Crete is up to the 9th. The insurrection prevails all over the island.

Omer Pasha, despairing, as it seems, after the double check of the 23rd of April at Crapi and Callicrate, of penetrating into Sfakia, has retired to Retimo. From there, on the 30th April, he went to the village of Messi. On their march the troops profaned the churches, destroyed the properties, and committed all sorts of barbarities.

The 1st of May at Messi he summoned the leading men of the neighbouring villages to tell them to notify to the inhabitants that they must submit. But on the 3rd of May the leading men came back and told him that the answer of all had been—liberty or death, and that because he had caused the house of one of the delegates who was the curé of the village to be demolished, and had caused all the properties to be laid waste.

The next day, marching along the coast and being supported by five steamers which coasted along, he entered into the district of Mylopotamos. The troops on their passage committed all sorts of atrocities on disarmed old men and unprotected women.

On the 6th of May the insurgents attacked the advance guard of Omer, near the village of Vrachimon. The combat lasted many hours. The details are still unknown. But reinforcements at Retimo were immediately requested by Omer on the 7th of May. He promised the plunder to all Mussulmans that would come to assist him.

Besides this combat, which took place in the district of Mylopotamos, another important fight took place on the 3rd of May, in the district of Malevyzion near Heraclion. The Chiefs of the forces of Malevyzion and Temenos, Charal. Vlachakis, and Heracles Cokkinidis, those of Eastern Mylopotamos, Michel Scoulas and G. Xetrypis, and the Commandant-in-chief of the volunteers, Petropoulakis, with the Philhellenes Jotfried and Desmazes, took part in it.

In this combat, which lasted from 7 o'clock in the morning to 8 o'clock at night, more than sixty shells were fired by the enemy at the Christians, and among these last only three were killed and six wounded, and only one severely. The Turks lost 150 men killed and wounded.

In the most eastern districts of the island a great assembly of Christians collected

and fortified themselves in the Convent of the Virgin Cardiotissa. Great enthusiasm for the insurrection reigns in those districts, which received with lively joy the reinforcement of Dimitracaracos.

Mehmet Pasha, fearing a sudden attack on the part of the insurgents in the defiles of Crapi, is fortifying and entrenching himself at Vrysses, where he remains in complete inaction.

From all the western districts detachments of insurgents are leaving for the eastern districts, in the rear of Omer Pasha. He, it appears, has indefinitely postponed his expedition against Sfakia, proposing to devastate the island and to destroy all the estates, because he cannot end the insurrection by force of arms.

The Provisional Government of Crete has addressed, through the Consuls in Canea, a new protest to the Christian Powers of Europe against the acts of barbarity and cruelty which mark the war of the Turks against the Christians of Candia.

Let us hope that the Christian Powers, who have saved Turkey by so many sacrifices and so much blood, will not any longer allow this scandalous state of things in Crete, which has lasted for six whole months, to continue. May God grant this for the welfare of humanity and for the honour of Christendom!

No. 155.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 3.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, May* 20, 1867.

ACCORDING to such information as I have been able to learn respecting the recent movements of the expeditionary force on the one hand, and of insurgent bands on the other, Omer Pasha had left Retimo town, and marched on through Messi to Candia town.

An encounter is reported to have taken place on or about the 16th instant, at Asites, in the district of Malevese.

The "Arkadi" has made two other trips to Mirabello and the Sphakian coast, and after discharging its cargo and a body of volunteers, is said to have carried off to Greece some families in distress.

The restrictions lately imposed upon the conveyance of small quantities of provisions at a time by peaceable villagers resorting to the town for the purpose, have been somewhat relaxed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 156.

*Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.**

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 3, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called upon me this morning, and read to me a despatch from M. de Moustier having reference to my conversation with Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne on the affairs of Crete, of which I gave your Excellency an account in my despatch of the 23rd ultimo.

M. de Moustier expresses his satisfaction at learning that the British Government does not regard as dangerous the inquiry which the French Government proposed that the Porte should be recommended to institute on the spot, with the assistance of Commissioners, to be named, on the invitation of the Sultan, by the Representatives of the different Powers at Constantinople.

Austria, M. de Moustier says, agrees to this measure; and he goes on to express the hope of the French Government that an agreement with that of Her Majesty has now been arrived at, and that, even if Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople should not be authorized to concur in an identic note in the terms of that proposed by the French Government, Her Majesty's Government will at least not hesitate to recommend separately to the Porte the plan of inquiry proposed. In that case, as time presses,

* A similar despatch was addressed to Lord Lyons.

M. de Moustier suggests that instructions should be sent by telegraph to Her Majesty's Ambassador.

I stated to Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne that Her Majesty's Government would recommend, through Lord Lyons, to the Porte, to consent to the proposal which the French Government desired to make to it for a Commission of Inquiry, limited as proposed.

Your Excellency will understand that the limitations to which I refer are those mentioned by the French Ambassador, as stated in my despatch of the 23rd of May, namely, that "the Sultan should, by a Decree, declare the formation of a Commission of Inquiry;" and that "the Representatives of the different Powers should, on the invitation of the Sultan, designate respectively the Delegates who should accompany the Turkish Commissioners." That "the question to be raised was not that of the cession of the island;" but that "the object was, to ascertain the real wants of the Cretans, with a view to administrative reforms;" and that "no demand" for a suspension of hostilities "would be made in a sense hostile to the interests of the Porte."

I further stated to the French Ambassador that Her Majesty's Government reserved to themselves the right of hereafter declaring that in their opinion any such inquiry as was proposed was unnecessary, in the event of the Porte spontaneously, and without delay, adopting local reforms in Crete, such as Her Majesty's Government might consider satisfactory; and I explained that by that term I meant such reforms as should establish a real autonomy, and should give to the Christian populations a distinct share in the Local Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 157.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 3, 1867.

FROM the recent communications which I have had with the French Ambassador, there is every likelihood that the proposal referred to in my previous despatch of this day's date will shortly be made to the Porte, and that the Sultan will be recommended to send to Crete a Commission of Inquiry with the view of ascertaining the real wants of the Cretans, and the administrative reforms by which they may be provided for. This recommendation, if made, will, as you will see, be accompanied by a further suggestion that the Sultan should invite the Representatives of the Powers at Constantinople to send delegates from each Mission to assist the Turkish Commissioners. The Porte having admitted, by the convocation of delegates from the island to meet at Constantinople, that some such inquiry was desirable, and some of those delegates having withdrawn from the capital before the inquiry was completed, may find it difficult to resist such a proposal as that to which I have alluded. Your Excellency will, however, bear in mind that if in the last resort, and failing any spontaneous action on the part of the Sultan by which the proposal would be anticipated, you should feel called upon to support the proposal of your colleagues under the limitations specified in my preceding despatch, it is not intended that you should join in any identic or collective note which may be addressed to the Porte, but you will act separately in recommending it to the Porte.

I need scarcely add that Her Majesty's Government have no intention of exercising any pressure on the Porte of a menacing nature to induce it to agree to the proposal.

It appears, however, to Her Majesty's Government that in this state of things it is well deserving the consideration of the Porte, whether it would not be good policy on its part to forestall the action of other Powers by a prompt and spontaneous declaration that the Sultan grants of his own free will to the inhabitants of Crete, under a system of local reforms, a real autonomy, in which the Christian population of the island should have a positive share. By such a course of proceeding the Porte would not only be spared from the humiliation of appearing to yield to foreign interference, but, as has been the case in Servia, the Sultan might expect to secure the gratitude of the Cretans.

Her Majesty's Government can hardly suppose that a Turkish or Christian Governor cannot be found, who, with the assistance of a Mixed Council, might administer the government of the island so as to secure an equal share in the administration to Mussulmans and to Christians, and to guarantee both against any undue partiality or favour being shown to one race to the detriment of the other.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 158.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 6, 1867.

HER Majesty's Government are glad to find by your telegram of yesterday that Fuad Pasha is personally well disposed to the suggestion which you were instructed to make to him, that the Sultan should spontaneously announce the concessions which he was prepared to make to the Cretans, with the understanding, however, that the other Powers should at once declare that the sovereignty of the Sultan over the island is to be maintained.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that if Fuad Pasha's colleagues should take the same view as his Excellency of the matter, it might be advisable for the Porte at once to make known to the Powers the extent of the concessions which the Sultan is ready of his own account to make to the Cretans, if reassured by a declaration on the part of the Powers that they will neither countenance nor support any plan by which the island would be separated from the Sultan's sovereignty.

Your Excellency must, however, take care, in any communication that you may have with Fuad Pasha on the subject, to avoid saying anything from which an impression might be derived by the Porte that Her Majesty's Government would under any circumstances be inclined to support the Sultan against his own subjects, or in any degree abandon the neutral position which they have taken up in the contest which is now unhappily prevailing in Crete.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 159.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord, *Athens, May* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch which Her Majesty's Consul at Syra has addressed to Mr. Erskine, giving the information which he has received from persons on whom some reliance may be placed. The account of the sickness and discouragement of the Turkish troops is confirmed from many other sources. The news received from Crete this week is very scanty, and the report of a fight in the district of Mylopotamo with an unknown result is not quite certain, but it seems probable that Omer Pasha has either gone himself, or sent some of his forces, to Reshid Pasha, who is in that district.

The "Arkadi" left Syra on the 28th of the month for the eastern provinces of Crete; she had on board provisions, ammunition, 488 rifles and medical stores; she also took with her two medical men and about 300 volunteers, commanded by an officer of the Greek Artillery, Colonel Sapounzaki, who was accompanied by his son and three officers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 159.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, May* 22, 1867.

THE Austrian boat from Canea arrived here early this morning, and the direct Austrian from Trieste for Constantinople being in also, the latter left at once.

The following are the particulars of what I have learnt:—An English traveller returning from Canea reports (though I did not see or hear him) that he heard at Candia there had been an engagement at Dimaster, of Mylopotamo, without result; that Omer Pasha was going from Retimo to Candia, and thence to attack Lasethes, where Major Dimitrakorakos was.

Another traveller, whom I did see, and who had been a week at Canea, said that little was known at Canea, and that there they looked to Syra for news from the other provinces of Crete; that there was much sickness among the Turks, one British

engineer being dead, another nearly so, of typhus, and that the Turks were much disheartened, the sick Egyptian troops not being replaced.

A letter from Canea of the 21st reports an engagement had taken place near Candia, in which the Turks were driven back with some loss: that Omer Pasha was preparing to attack Sfakia, but that the Turks felt no confidence in the success of the expedition, nor in the ultimate subjugation of the island; that the mortality was great among the Turkish troops in Canea.

Another letter of the 21st, from Canea, states that after the defeat of Omer Pasha and Mehemet Pasha there has been no more fighting; Mehemet being inactive at Stylos of Apokorona; that Omer has entered Mylopotamo, ravaging everything on his way; that at Brachimo (?) of Retimo there had been skirmishing.

A letter from Candia of the 20th states that Reshid Pasha hearing Omer Pasha was advancing in Mylopotamo, made a sortie with 1,500 Regular and Irregular troops in order to join Omer Pasha; that the Cretans allowed Reshid to reach Phodeli, and there attacked him; that if Reshid do not make for the coast for protection from the steamers he will be lost; that on the night of the 19th some 100 wounded Turks arrived by steamer, the writer himself seeing them from the window; that of the Turks some 200 were killed; that Omer remained at Pérama unable to advance: that while writing, the writer learned the Christians had taken the ammunition and provisions of the Turks and about 100 prisoners: the Turks in Candia being greatly exasperated.

A letter from Retimo of the 20th says that Omer Pasha passing by Retimo burnt all the trees and villages, and killed indiscriminately every one he met with, and also the nine Christians that accompanied him to take back, when done with, the mules and horses Omer had required and taken for his march; and that it was reported at Retimo that the Turks finding some 300 women and children at Bali, near Retimo, waiting for the "Arkadi" to take them away, killed them all. Also that Koraka from Agio Vaissli had entered Messara to encourage the insurrection, and attack the 2,000 Turks who are at Dibaki.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 160.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord, *Vienna, June 4, 1867.*

SINCE the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, informing me of the communication which Count Apponyi had made to your Lordship of a despatch of Baron Beust on the affairs of Candia, I have taken an opportunity of speaking to his Excellency on the same subject. I sought to learn what he now thought on the point in question, and I found him more inclined to wait for further news from the seat of the insurrection than to make any new suggestion as to the course which he considered it advisable for the Powers to follow. He is evidently hopeful that an understanding will be arrived at in the course of a short time between England, Austria, and France as to the advice which may be conjointly offered to the Porte with reference to the Cretan affairs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BLOOMFIELD.

No. 161.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 9.)

My Lord, *Athens, June 1, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a report which has been sent to me from Her Majesty's Consulate at Syra. The report which has been drawn up by the Chancelier of that Consulate contains a detailed and very interesting account of the last voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete, and of her return to Syra, and the information has been derived from the log of that ship. The "Arkadi" came on to the Piræus, and landed 700 Cretans, mostly women and children, and she left yesterday, it is reported, for Argostenion, near Cape Sunium, where, it is believed, she will take on board a number of volunteers (stated at 700).

I have also the honour to inclose a copy of the account published by the Cretan Committee of Athens, giving details of the insurrection up to the 26th May.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 161.

Mr. Saponzaki to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *On board the "Arkadi," Syra, May* 30, 1867, 5·30 A.M.

THIS moment the "Arkadi" returned from Crete, having on board 850 souls—women, children, and sick men—and leaves immediately for the Piræus; and as Mr. Consul Lloyd, in consequence, has not time to write to you, I give you the following particulars which I have been able to learn:—

The "Arkadi" left Syra at 10·20 A.M. of the 27th May, with 300 volunteers, provisions, and ammunition, steaming round the east end of Crete, close in the land towards Agio-Vassili. We passed a frigate at 3·30 P.M., May 28th, lying at anchor at Terapetra. Continuing our course, we arrived at Viamo at 5·55 P.M., and landed about 130 volunteers, 300 boxes of cartridges, and a few cases of rifles, leaving Viamo at 6·50. We continued our course to the east, arriving at Prevelis, in Agio-Vassili, at 11·35 P.M., where we discharged the whole of the cargo and the remainder of the volunteers, taking on board a few families (about 200 souls). We left Prevelis May 29th, at 4 A.M., continuing our course further eastward. We discovered a frigate lying at anchor at Frangocastelli; but, not taking heed of her, as they appeared to be all asleep on board, we ran into Rodakino; anchor down at 4·40 A.M.; all the boats lowered immediately, and sent on shore to bring off families. At 5·55 A.M. left Rodakino, with about 200 women, 500 children, and 140 men on board, 70 of which were volunteers, 10 of them being wounded. Retracing our course, the frigate now saw us, and prepared to get under way to follow us. At 6·30 A.M. we touched at Damona in search of families; but, none making their appearance, we continued our course, calling at Prevelis at 6·45 A.M., to warn the volunteers and people of the approach of the frigate, so as to get the cargo out of the way before she came up. Perceiving General Coroneos in the midst of the volunteers at the landing-place, the Greek flag was hoisted, and a salute of three guns was fired. We then continued our course to the east, and passed an Egyptian paddle-boat lying at Dimbaki, in Messara, which commenced immediately to get up steam. At 9·30 A.M. discovered the Egyptian paddle-boat giving us chase, which she continued for about one hour. At 12·30 P.M. discovered the frigate from Frangocastelli giving us chase, having all sail set, and taking short cut to try and gain on us, continuing the chase until about 4 P.M. Rounding the east end of Crete, we arrived at Syra at 5·15 A.M., May 30th.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EMMANUEL SAPONZACHI,

British Consul's Clerk.

Inclosure 2 in No. 161.

Bulletin of the Cretan Central Committee.

Athènes, le 30 *Mai*, 1867.

LES dépêches de Crète vont jusqu'au $\frac{14}{26}$ Mai.

D'après ces dépêches le Généralissime Turc n'a pu rien faire jusqu'à présent ni par la force des armes, ni par le ravage des propriétés, ni par la famine qu'Omer Pacha, dans son désespoir, a appelés à son secours contre le peuple héroïque de la Crète. La révolution est chaque jour plus vivace et s'étend à toute l'île. La vandalisme des Musulmans au lieu de comprimer le feu, l'attise et l'avive.

La bataille d'Assités (Malevision) près d'Héraclion était très importante; elle dura de 6 heures du matin à 7 heures du soir. Y ont pris part les Turcs d'Assités, la garnison Turque de St. Miron, la cavalerie des Circassiens et quelques renforts arrivés d'Héraclion. Toutes ces forces réunies n'ont pu résister au feu meurtrier des Chrétiens, qui après un combat héroïque gardèrent leur position. Ce combat a été provoqué par les nôtres, qui les premiers attaquèrent les Musulmans pour faciliter au brave Coraka les moyens d'opérer sa jonction avec les forces considérables que les insurgés avaient déjà établies

dans les provinces situées plus à l'est. Cette jonction est maintenant opérée sans qu'il y ait eu effusion de sang.

Après son échec à Sphakia, Omer Pacha a organisé une expédition contre les provinces orientales ; mais là non plus il n'a eu jusqu'ici aucun succès. D'après nos informations, au lieu de comprimer la révolution par la terreur, ainsi qu'il en avait l'espoir, il la voit s'étendre et se fortifier ; au lieu de battre les insurgés, il est horriblement harcelé par eux.

Campé près de la mer à Anguelianés (Mylopotamos), Omer s'est vu forcé d'y faire venir et les troupes qui occupaient Armyro près Rhéthymne et celles que commandait Reschit Effendi à Héraclion, afin de les opposer aux insurgés de Mylopotamos, qui, avec le secours de Chrétiens venus de St. Basile, d'Amarion et de Sphakia, l'attaquèrent le 6 Mai sous le commandement Coronéo, de Sgouro et de quelques autres braves chefs.

Le Colonel Pétropoulaki et les chefs indigènes Nioti, Csétripi et Skula, informés après la brillante victoire d'Assités que Reschit sortait d'Héraclion pour aller au secours d'Omer à Mylopotamos, se sont portés contre lui en toute hâte ; l'ayant rencontré près de la rivière de Halepa, où il était arrivé à la tête de 2,000 hommes, ils l'ont attaqué à la baïonnette, lui ont fait quelques prisonniers et lui ont pris 16 caissons, 60 chevaux et beaucoup d'armes et d'objets d'équipement ; le combat dura de 4 à 9 heures du soir (18 Mai). Alors Reschit commença à opérer sa retraite, et il a été poursuivi toute la nuit par des bandes d'insurgés qui tiraient sans cesse sur lui jusqu'au moment où il arriva au camp d'Omer.

A ce brillant combat ont pris part aussi deux braves capitaines de Malévision, Vlachachi et Kokinidi.

Omer Pacha, après avoir, au prix de ces sacrifices, opéré sa jonction avec Reschit Pacha, s'avança, par Mylopotamos, jusqu'à Tilissos ; les Turcs, sur leur passage, brûlaient, ravageaient, pillaient, violaient et massacraient les femmes et les enfants qui n'avaient pas eu le temps de se retirer dans les montagnes, tandisque les insurgés les harcelaient toujours sans relâche ; le $\frac{8}{20}$ Mai il y a eu engagement à St. Marrina et le jour suivant près d'un village où Kokinidi reçut aussi une légère blessure.

Des lettres d'Héraclion nous apprennent que dans la nuit du 7 au 8 (19 à 20) beaucoup de Turcs blessés y avaient été transportés, et que la population Musulmane de la Canée et d'Héraclion était dans la consternation en voyant que le nouveau généralissime, après avoir échoué dans les provinces occidentales, n'obtenait guère plus de succès dans la partie est de l'île.

Il paraît que de Tilissos, Omer Pacha se portera sur les provinces situées plus à l'est, pour les ravager elles aussi avant de quitter la Crète. Mais là aussi les insurgés l'attendent de pied ferme ; 6,000 Crétois et volontaires sous le commandement de Coraka et de Dimitracaraco s'y sont concentrés et ont pris position à Lassithion ; ce sont de gens de Mirabello, de Spinalonga, de Rizou, de Pédiade, et de Lassithion.

Les Chrétiens des provinces centrales et occidentales ont laissé des garnisons à Crape et à Callicrate, et suivent à la trace l'armée qui s'avance sous le commandement d'Omer Pacha.

La garnison Turque de Spinalonga a été deux fois attaquée par les insurgés, qui ont tué et blessé bon nombre de Turcs et se sont emparés d'une centaine moutons.

La mission soi-disant philanthropique du fameux Sava à Réthymne, mission dont on avait fait beaucoup de bruit, n'est qu'une vaine et ridicule comédie. La commission formée sous sa présidence n'a encore procuré aucun secours aux femmes et aux enfants des Chrétiens qui sont nus et affamés à Réthymne et dont le Gouvernment Turc empêche la sortie, dans un but humanitaire.

(Translation.)

Athens, May 30, 1867.

THE last despatches from Crete are up to the $\frac{14}{26}$th May.

According to these despatches the Turkish Generalissimo has been unable up to now to effect anything, either by force of arms or the devastation of the estates, or by the famine which Omer Pasha in his despair has called to his assistance against the heroic population of Crete. The revolution becomes every day more violent and spreads over all the island. The vandalism of the Mussulmans instead of smothering the fire stirs it up, and keeps it alive.

The battle of Assites (Malevision), near Heraclion, was very important ; it lasted from 6 o'clock in the morning till 7 o'clock at night. The Turks of Assites, the Turkish garrison of St. Miron, the Circassian Cavalry and some reinforcements arrived from

Heraclion, took part in it. All these united forces could not resist the deadly fire of the Christians, who after an heroic combat held their position. The attack was commenced by our soldiers, who were the first to attack the Musulmans to enable the brave Coraka to effect a junction with the considerable forces which the insurgents had already established in the provinces situated more to the east. This junction has now been effected without bloodshed.

After his check at Sfakia, Omer Pasha organized an expedition against the eastern provinces, but up to now he has not had any success there. According to our accounts, instead of crushing the revolution by intimidation as he had hoped to do, he sees it spread and become greater. Instead of conquering the insurgents, he is terribly harassed by them.

Omer, encamped by the sea at Anguelianés (Mylopotamos), was obliged to summon both the troops which occupied Armyro, near Retimo, and those which Reshid Effendi commanded at Heraclion, to oppose them to the insurgents at Mylopotamos, who, with the assistance of the Christians arrived from St. Basile, Amarion, and Sfakia, attacked him on the 6th May, under the command of Coroneos, Sgouro, and some other brave Chiefs.

Colonel Petropoulaki and the native Chiefs Nioti, Csetripi, and Skula being informed after the brilliant victory of Assites that Reshid was evacuating Heraclion to go the assistance of Omer at Mylopotamos, marched against him with all haste. Having met him near the River Halepa, where he had arrived at the head of 2,000 men, they attacked him with the bayonet, made many prisoners, and captured 16 tumbrils, 60 horses, and many arms and military stores. The fight lasted from 4 to 9 o'clock in the evening of the 18th May. Then Reshid commenced his retreat, and he was pursued the whole night by bands of insurgents, who fired unceasingly on him until he arrived at the camp of Omer.

Two brave captains of Malevision, Vlachachi and Kokinidi, took part in this brilliant combat.

Omer Pasha, after having at this cost effected his junction with Reshid Pasha, advanced by Mylopotamos to Tilissos. The Turks in their way burned, ravaged, pillaged, violated, and massacred the women and children who had not time to withdraw into the mountains, while the insurgents continued to harass them unceasingly. The $\frac{8}{20}$th of May an engagement took place at St. Marrina, and one the day following near a village where Kokinidi received a slight wound.

Letters from Heraclion inform us that in the night between the $\frac{7}{19}$th and $\frac{8}{20}$th many wounded Turks had been conveyed there, and that the Mussulman population of Canea and Heraclion were in consternation at seeing that the new Generalissimo, after having failed in the western provinces, had scarcely more success in the eastern part of the island.

It appears that from Tilissos Omer Pasha proceeded to the provinces situated more to the east, in order to ravage them also before leaving Crete. But there also the insurgents awaited him unflinchingly; 6,000 Cretans and volunteers under the command of Coraka and Dimitracaraco had there concentrated themselves and taken up their position at Lassithion; these were people of Mirabello, Spinalonga, Rizon, Pédiade, and Lassithion.

The Christians of the central and western provinces left garrisons at Crapi and at Callicrate, and followed in the steps of the army which is advancing under the command of Omer Pasha.

The Turkish garrison at Spinalonga has been twice attacked by the insurgents, who killed and wounded a large number of Turks, and had seized 100 sheep.

The pretended philanthropic mission of the famous Sava to Retimo, a mission of which a great deal had been said, is nothing but an empty and ridiculous comedy. The Commission formed under his auspices has not yet procured any succour to the women and children of the Christians who are at Retimo without food or clothing, and whose exit the Turkish Government prevent from humane motives.

No. 162.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, May 25, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a letter from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, containing some particulars of the state of Candia Province, and of an encounter at Assites, and another at Melidoni, having taken place.

Reinforcements have also arrived in Candia for the Imperial army.

By an Egyptian steamer arrived here on the 24th instant, we learn that Omer Pasha had entered into Candia Town. There is a rumour of an important engagement having occurred at Damasta, in Mylopotamos district; but I have not succeeded as yet in obtaining any positive information upon that action.

The inclosed copy of a letter from the Consular Agent at Retimo gives an account of the late progress of the troops from that town into Candia Province, and the sufferings of the population in the province of Retimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 162.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, May 18, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to state to you that last Sunday morning it was reported to the authorities that the Greek steamer "Arkadi" had landed the previous night on the coast of this province, near the village Malia, in the district Pediada, and at Milato, about 600 volunteers, with rifles, ammunition, and provisions. As this report was confirmed by some irregulars who had been expressly sent to the spot to ascertain the matter, Reschid Pasha, accompanied by a body of irregulars, left this city on the morning of the 12th instant with a Government steamer, and proceeded to the above-mentioned place, hoping that the volunteers perhaps had not yet conveyed their rifles, &c., to the mountains, so as to seize them. Having, however, seen that the volunteers had already carried everything to the mountains, he returned back the same day. His Excellency has, however, reinforced the regular troops stationed at the village Castelli of Pediada, consisting of one battalion of regular Turkish troops, with one more battalion of Egyptians, and 1,000 irregulars. On account of this event not only the districts of Pediada and Mirabello are in a state of insurrection, but almost the whole province of Candia is in a state of revolt, and all the Turkish families of Mirabello have refuged to Spinalonga, and those of Setia have done the same as well as to Hierapetra.

Last week an Imperial ship of war, with a transport steamer, landed here a body of cavalry consisting of 280 horsemen.

On the 14th instant an engagement took place at the village Assites in Malivisi, between the insurgents and about 1,500 irregulars who were stationed at the above-mentioned village. In order to assist the irregulars at Assites, two battalions of regulars, accompanied by a body of 150 cavalry, proceeded the same day to the village of Assites. The result of the engagement was not of great importance, though it lasted the whole of the day, and in the evening the irregulars left their station at Assites and withdrew to the villages of Pentamothi and Petrokephalo, which villages are nearer to this town than Assites, their first station; on the other hand, the regulars and the cavalry returned to their camp at St. Myron, which now comprises three battalions of regulars.

At the village Tympaki of Messara are stationed six battalions of regulars. The total number of Turkish troops in this province amounts to 7,000, with 280 cavalry; the total number of irregulars to about 2,500.

In consequence of instructions received by Reschid Pasha from Omer Pasha, the former, accompanied by a body of regulars and irregulars, left this on the 16th, and advanced on the district of Mylopotamo to join the latter at Melidoni: an encounter took place in consequence with the insurgents at that district before Reschid had time to join Omer Pasha; heavy losses were caused, the details of which are as yet unknown.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 162.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, May* $\frac{8}{20}$, 1867.

AFTER the battle of the 23rd of April, when the Christians retired, Omer Pasha ordered his troops to cut down the trees and destroy the villages. On the 24th, the booty taken was conveyed to this port by a Government steamer, being principally oil, furniture, &c., and was received by the Lieutenant-Governor here. The latter fact has occasioned much discontent to Cretan Turks, many of whom have deserted.

After three days' rain, Omer Pasha, having the intention of attacking Sfakia, returned all at once to Retimo, namely, on the 28th with one-half of his army, the other half remaining at Armyro. His Highness stayed here one day, and on the 30th proceeded again with his troops to a village two hours and a-half distant from this city, called Adeli, and on their way the troops committed many excesses. The door of the church St. Pandeliminus was broken open and the images knocked about to pieces. They next plundered the houses of the Christians, causing them considerable damage.

On the 1st instant, and while at Mesi, Omer Pasha invited the elders who had surrendered to proceed to the villages, and induce the inhabitants to present themselves to his Highness, and thus make their submission. He also sent a priest from Mesi.

On the following day these returned, bringing an answer in the negative. Then Omer Pasha gave orders that the priest's house should be noted down, also his grounds, and that the trees should be felled But his orders were not carried out, owing to arrangements having been made to march early the next day towards the coast, along which five war steamers were cruizing; and his Highness accordingly proceeded to the village of Anghiliana, in Mylopotamos.

On his arrival he ordered all the troops to disperse from Armyro.

On the 5th these troops arrived in Retimo town, after committing great excesses on the road, as well as in Rustica village, treating the peaceful inhabitants as if they had not submitted.

On the 6th, the Christians met their opponents at Brachimo; the fight lasted six hours, but the result is unknown.

Yesterday morning smoke was perceived in Mylopotamos, supposed to be the village burning; and the Turkish Irregulars in Retimo town left to join Omer Pasha, his Highness having given directions that all the booty seized should be considered as their own. On that day reports were current that Omer Pasha had ordered several villages to be set fire to, and we are informed that many women and children have been massacred.

The authorities have this day given notice to the Irregulars that they must not quit the town, because his Highness had left for Candia. We cannot understand what his Highness' plan can be, since he appears to have relinquished all intention of attacking Sfakia, and is endeavouring to put down all the insurgents that remain in Retimo province. It would seem as if he were unable to penetrate into the interior, but keeps close to the coast destroying all the villages, &c., and harassing even the peaceable inhabitants.

After his arrival here, the Generalissimo ordered the Mudir of Episcopi to leave that place with his troops. Terrible is the suffering caused by the war. The late severe weather has caused excessive misery; more than 500 souls have perished in the mountains in consequence, as also from hunger and ill-treatment at the hands of their oppressors.

After the encounter on the 23rd ultimo, many old men, women, and children have been murdered at Kurna village.

The inhabitants of the lower villages have all fled to the mountains, and sought refuge in caves beyond the reach of the Turks.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 163.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 10.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, May* 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your Lordship's information, the late movements of ships of war stationed in these waters. The Italian frigate "Gaeta" and corvette "Princess Clotilde" having been recalled to Spezzia, the "Autium" despatch-boat remains here.

The Austrian gun-boat "Villebich" has been relieved by the "Waal" of the same class. The Russian frigate "Grand Admiral" is cruizing on the coast of Retimo and Candia. I am informed that some fifteen lighter loads of biscuit were lately landed at Retimo port from on board that ship, for the benefit of the numerous Cretan sufferers there. The Russian gun-boat "Bombori" is gone to the Piræus. The French despatch-boat "La Salamandre" is still moored in Canea port. Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian" having left Canea on the 10th instant, on a short visit to the ports of Candia and Retimo, returned hither on the 19th. As this ship is again to proceed to sea to-morrow for its monthly target practice, I have requested the officer commanding to touch at Syra, for the purpose of dropping a mail from me to Her Majesty's Consul at that port. On its return to Canea, I trust the "Tyrian" will also call for a few hours at the port of Candia, and thus convey any late and authentic intelligence respecting the insurrection in that province, and the operations that are being conducted by the Generalissimo; and I will not fail to communicate such information to your Lordship.

Ibrahim and Kassim Pashas still continue at Suda Bay, in command of the respective Turkish and Egyptian squadrons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 164.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 12, 1867.

I HAD hoped that your Excellency would have been enabled before this time to inform Her Majesty's Government of the intentions of the Porte with regard to Candia, which, as reported in your telegram of the 7th instant, Fuad Pasha had led you to expect he would communicate to you.

In the meanwhile, what I have heard of the communications which have been going on at Paris during the Emperor of Russia's visit in regard to the affairs of Turkey in general and of Candia in particular, only serves to confirm the justness of the view taken by Her Majesty's Government when I directed you to recommend to the Porte to anticipate by spontaneous, prompt, and ample concessions in favour of the Cretans any proposal on the part of other Powers which, even if accepted by the Porte, would deprive the Sultan of the merit of appearing to confer by his own free will such a system of administration in the island as would remove all just cause of complaint.

Her Majesty's Government have good reason for supposing that delay in this particular may act most injuriously on the interest of the Porte; for, as far as they can judge, the proposal to which I have referred in my former despatches, of sending Delegates to the island, will shortly be made, and, if rejected, will in all probability be followed up, on the part of certain Powers, with a communication which may be still more unacceptable to the Porte.

In any communications, however, which your Excellency may have with the Turkish Government in this matter, you will make it clearly understood that while Her Majesty's Government disclaim any desire to dictate to the Porte the course it should pursue, they equally renounce any responsibility for the consequences, whatever they may be, which may ensue from the adoption by the Porte of the views and opinions which you have been instructed to lay before it, or from its delaying or refusing to do so.

You will say that although unwilling to interfere in the internal affairs of the Porte, Her Majesty's Government have felt that they could not, consistently with the friendship which they entertain for Turkey, withhold from the Turkish Government the view they take of the best means of averting the serious evil which appears to them to hang over the Porte; but they freely admit that it rests with the Porte alone to decide how in its judgment the question at issue may best be dealt with.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY

No. 165.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 14.)

My Lord, *Athens, June* 6, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra. Mr. Lloyd gives an account of late events in Crete, which he has collected from various sources, and he also describes the extraordinary voyage of the "Arkadi," when that vessel was able, without being disturbed, to land volunteers, ammunition and provisions at two points on the eastern coast of the Island of Crete, to call at three other ports to pick up Cretan families, and to fire a salute at Prevelis in honour of Colonel Coroneos, who happened to be there. This information was obtained from the log of the "Arkadi," and is similar to a Report drawn up by the Chancelier of the Syra Consulate, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 1st instant. I also inclose a copy of the Report of the latest intelligence received from Crete, and published by the Cretan Committee here.

From Photiades Bey I learn that Omer Pasha has not as yet been able to accomplish naything, and that he is trying to isolate Sphakia and other districts,—a work which he finds difficult, on account of the facility with which the "Arkadi" throws provisions and ammunition on any part of the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 165.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, May* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the "Arkadi," which left Syra at 10·20 P.M. of the 27th May, with a cargo of provisions, ammunition, including flour, biscuits, salt, tobacco, 488 rifles, 500,000 cartridges, 23 boxes of medical stores, and 1 of lint, and having on board 300 volunteers under Colonel Saponzaki of the Greek artillery, with his son and three officers, and two medical men, returned here at 5·15 A.M. this day, after a successful voyage, bringing back about 840 souls, of which about 200 are women, 500 children, and 140 men; 70 of these last being volunteers, a few of whom are sick and wounded. The "Arkadi" left Syra about 8·30 this day for Piræus.

The following are the particulars of the voyage as far as I have been able to learn. She went hence by the east of the Island of Crete, and going close to the land passed a frigate at anchor at Yerapetra, at 3·30 P.M. of the 28th; and continuing her course arrived at Viano (Tsari Forathi) of Riso Kastron at about 6 P.M., and there landed part of the volunteers and part of cargo. Leaving Tsari Forathi she proceeded west, and arrived at Prevelis (Limni Bay) of Agios Vassilios at 11·30 P.M.; there she discharged the remainder of her cargo, and the remainder of the volunteers, taking on board many families. Leaving Limni Bay at 4 A.M. of the 29th, the "Arkadi" proceeding westward, discovered a frigate a-head at anchor at Franco Castelli, and the frigate not seeming to notice the "Arkadi," she (the "Arkadi") ran into Rodakino, where she anchored at 4·40 A.M., and brought off more families and men, including returned volunteers. About 6 A.M. "Arkadi" left Rodakino, when the frigate seemed to have sighted the "Arkadi," and prepared to get under weigh; so the "Arkadi" proceeded to the east, and at 6·30 A.M. she touched at Damnona (between Rodakino and Prevelis), in search of families, but none appearing, she called again at Prevelis, at 6·45 A.M., to give warning of the frigate's coming, in order to secure the cargo landed there; and Coroneos being then at the landing-place, the "Arkadi" dressed ship, hoisted the Greek flag, and saluted with guns. Continuing eastward, the "Arkadi" passed an Egyptian paddle-boat laying at Dibaki in Messara Bay, which got up steam, and at 9·30 A.M. was seen giving chase, which was kept up for an hour; and at 12·30 P.M. when off Yerapetra, the frigate from Franco Castelli, with all sail set, was seen giving chase to the "Arkadi," and continued it till about 4 P.M., when rounding the east end of Crete the "Arkadi" kept her course to Syra, where she arrived, as stated, at 5·15 A.M. this day.

The above particulars were, I understand, forwarded to you by Mr. Saponzaki, in the "Arkadi," and I have now slightly altered or explained them by reports obtained from the captain.

From a note I received after the "Arkadi" had left for the Piræus I learn that the Turkish army, 12,000 to 15,000 strong, under Omer Pasha, encamped in Gaidaropolis

(ancient Lappa), between Apokorona and Retimo districts, was attacked on the 16th of May by some 4,000 Christians under Coroneos with signal success, the Turks retiring to Mylopotamo, followed for three days by the Christians, who then went to Agios Vassilios; that Omer Pasha, continuing his march to the east, joined Said (?) Pasha at Vraclia, in order to prepare to encounter Dimitrakarakos and Petropoulaki in Mirabello; and that Mechmet (?) Pasha was shut up in Spinalonga.

According to the report of the captain of the "Arkadi," he learnt at Prevelis that Mechmet Pasha is surrounded in Apokorona by the nephew of Hadji Michali and other chiefs, who have cut off the water, and is in despair, as the Cretans learn from a Turk sent by Mechmet to Canea, and who was taken by them; also that at the battle of St. Giovanni of Mylopotamo, between Coroneos and Omer Pasha, had the ammunition of the Cretans not been expended, Omer Pasha would have lost many more men than he did, and perhaps himself have been taken.

By the Austrian boat arrived yesterday from Crete a letter from Canea of the 27th May, which says that Omer Pasha has succeeded, after many days' hard fighting, in reaching Candia, the Turks being greatly discouraged.

A letter from Retimo of the $\frac{15}{27}$th May says a bloody engagement took place at Margarites of Mylopotamo between Omer Pasha and Coroneos, with Romano, Petropoulaki, Skoula, and other chiefs, lasting from the $\frac{6}{18}$th to the $\frac{10\text{th}}{22\text{nd}}$ May, in which many Turks were killed; and that, had the ammunition of the Cretans not failed, Omer Pasha would probably have been taken; that Omer Pasha, in his rage, burnt Margarita, Melidoni, Plevriano, Vatheo, Ortheo, and other villages, killing every one in his power indiscriminately, and even burning children, cutting down many thousand olive-trees; the road from Aspro-Aniphoro to Anoya being covered with the bodies of the Turkish dead left unburied; and, marching thence to Spilia of Heraclion, is there concentrating in order to attack Dimitrakarakos in Lasithes.

A letter from Emilius Tsapolos, aide-de-camp of Korakos, of the 12th of May says, "We passed from Agios Vassilios and Messara to Lasithe, where we were warmly welcomed, and found the inhabitants full of courage and enthusiasm. Dimitrakarakos concentrating in order to receive Omer Pasha, and, with the 700 now brought, we shall be in all 6,000."

According to a Turkish version the late fights were nothing but skirmishes in which the Greeks suffered most severely, while the Turks have scarcely felt their losses, and besides the Pasha's having effected his purpose of junction, there is nothing whatever to prove that an attack on Sphakia ever formed part of the plan of Omer, who will be most likely waiting for reinforcements; as, presuming the total amount of his effective troops to be not more than 14,000, as Consular reports, it was averred, from Canea, stated them to be, the half or more of that number would be required for the fortress.

There is a very marked difference now for the better in the reception given here to the returned volunteers, who are no longer publicly abused, as they were formerly, for returning from Crete. On the contrary, they are to be seen sitting down in or before the different cafés, each the centre of an intensely interested and attentive group of listeners, and general report says they are all, or nearly all, going back again, having had leave from their superior officers. Some of these, neither sick nor wounded, perhaps to justify in public opinion their return, declare the revolution to be declining, the natives and volunteers being worn out with privation and hardships; while others, the bearers of good news, being always welcome, declare the revolution to be as flourishing as the most ardent can desire.

June 2.—Yesterday evening the Greek steamer from Piræus brought some fresh volunteers, the number being variously stated; from 600 to 700 being shortly expected to arrive, and who will, in all likelihood if they come, be sent off to Crete immediately.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 165.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee, published June 6, 1867.

Dernieres Nouvelles de Candie.—Les nouvelles de Candie vont jusqu'au 22 Mai. Après son passage à travers le Mylopotamos, Omer Pacha a réuni toutes ses forces dans les districts orientaux. La concentration des troupes Turco-Egyptiennes a eu lieu aux environs de Lassithion, où se trouvent les deux chefs Pétropoulakis et Koracos avec près 6,000 insurgés.

Les nouvelles des insurgés venues de Lassithion vont jusqu'au 18 Mai. Jusqu'à ce jour des combats d'escarmouche avaient eu lieu entre l'avant-garde de l'armée Turque, la garnison de la forteresse de Spinalonga et quelques uns des nôtres. Les Chrétiens ont fait 24 prisonniers dans ces combats. Le chef Koracos termine comme il suit sa lettre du 18: "Les Turcs, qui avaient envoyé leurs gardes avancées jusqu'au village de Castamonitza, ont été repoussés par les nôtres posés à Cara Pigadion. Ils ont eu trois morts. Demain nous commençons. L'ennemi approche, nous causerons ensemble avec nos fusils; nous l'attendons avec impatience."

Les lettres d'Héraclion en date du 22 portent qu'Omer Pacha a attaqué, le 20, avec toutes ses troupes, les insurgés postés à Lassithion. Les Turcs gardent le plus profond silence sur le résultat de l'attaque. L'autorité a fait placer des sentinelles aux portes de la ville et empêche l'entrée et la sortie de tout Chrétien. D'après tous ces indices et plusieurs autres on est convaincu à Héraclion qu'Omer Pacha a été repoussé de Lassithion comme il l'avait été de Sphakia. Espérons que par le prochain bateau les bruits répandus seront confirmés. Une machine incendiaire a été découverte par un bateau Turc tandis qu'il retirait son ancre. On dit que les côtes de l'île sont parsemées de ces machines. Tous les lettres que nous recevons nous assurent que l'insurrection dans tous les districts de l'Ile de Crète acquiert tous les jours de nouvelles forces.

(Translation.)

LAST NEWS FROM CANDIA.—News from Candia up to the 22nd of May. Omer Pasha, after his passage over the Mylopotamos, concentrated all his forces in the eastern districts. The concentration of the Turco-Egyptian troops was effected in the neighbourhood of Lassithion, where are the two Chiefs Petropoulakis and Korakos, with nearly 6,000 insurgents.

The news come from Lassithion respecting the insurgents is up the 18th of May. Up to that day skirmishes had taken place between the advanced guard of the Turkish army, the garrison of the fortress of Spinalonga, and some of our troops. The Christians took twenty-four prisoners in these combats. The Chief Korakos ends his letter of the 18th in the following manner:—"The Turks, who had sent on their advanced guard to the village of Castamonitza, were repulsed by our troops posted at Cara Pigadion. They lost three dead. To-morrow we shall begin. The enemy approaches; we will talk with our guns; we await them impatiently."

Letters from Heraclion, dated the 22nd, say that Omer Pasha attacked, on the 20th, the insurgents posted at Lassithion, with all his troops. The Turks keep the most profound silence as to the result of this attack. The authorities have placed sentinels at the gate of the town, and prevent every Christian from going out or coming in. To judge by all these appearances, and many others, they are convinced at Heraclion that Omer Pasha has been driven back from Lassithion as he was from Sphakia. Let us hope that by the next boat these rumours will be confirmed. A torpedo was discovered by a Turkish ship as she was weighing anchor. The coasts of the island are said to be covered with these machines. All the letters we receive assure us that the insurrection in all the districts of the Island of Crete gathers new strength every day.

No. 166.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 5, 1867.

I COMMUNICATED orally to Fuad Pasha this morning the substance of your Lordship's telegram dated the 3rd instant 6 P.M.*

I told his Highness that the Porte must be prepared for a proposal that the Sultan should send a Commission to Crete, and should invite the guaranteeing Powers to name Delegates to accompany it. The specified object of the Commission would, I said, be to ascertain the wants of the Cretans, with a view to the introduction of administrative reforms. The Porte had itself admitted the necessity of inquiry, by summoning Delegates to Constantinople. Some of these Delegates had been already induced to withdraw, and this might be used as an argument for instituting a further inquiry in the island itself. It might, in fact, be difficult for the Porte to refuse to comply with the coming proposal if things remained in their present state; but there was still time for

* See No. 157.

the Porte to anticipate the proposal by spontaneous concessions to the Cretans. The wisest course would be to grant at once local reforms which would establish a real autonomy, and confer on the Christian population a positive share in the Government. By granting such reforms at once, the Sultan would avoid the appearance of yielding only to pressure from the foreign Powers, and would entitle himself to the gratitude of the Cretans. Surely the Porte would do well to appoint immediately a Mussulman or Christian Governor, who should be assisted by a Mixed Council, in such a way as to secure to Christians and Mussulmans alike a fair share in the administration, and afford ample security to both against being treated with undue favour or disfavour. Such, I said, in conclusion, were the views of Her Majesty's Government, which I had lost no time in communicating confidentially to his Highness, in the earnest hope that the Porte would not, by delay, lose the opportunity of acting upon them.

Fuad Pasha said that, first of all, he must beg me to convey to Her Majesty's Government the expression of his sincere gratitude for the friendly consideration for the Porte evinced by the communication I had just made. In a matter of so much importance it would be his duty to consult his colleagues before expressing a positive opinion on behalf of the Porte. He would, however, at once frankly acquaint me with his own sentiments. He would do a great deal to avoid being placed in the position of having to receive the contemplated proposal and to reject it. He was, moreover, disposed, on general grounds, to make most liberal concessions to the Cretans, and to make them as soon as possible. The scheme for the future government of Crete which had been formed by the Porte did not differ very materially from that which I had just recommended to him. The difficulty of settling the Cretan question did not lie in any unwillingness on the part of the Sultan or his Ministers to establish liberal institutions in the island; it was caused by the attempts to annex the island to Greece. France had not made this proposal distinctly to the Porte; but it was perfectly well known to the Porte, to the Hellenes, and to the world at large, that she had made a proposal to the other Powers to join her in demanding the cession—not of Crete only, but Thessaly and Epirus—to Greece. This proposal had encouraged the attempts of the Hellenes to get possession of Crete. Nothing short of a positive declaration from the guaranteeing Powers that the sovereignty of the Sultan should be maintained would suffice to allay the excitement in Greece, and to discourage the invasion of Crete by volunteers from that country. Until the Hellenes were brought to reason, it could be neither for the dignity nor for the interest of the Sultan to make concessions to the Cretans. Let the Porte have only its own subjects to deal with, and it would spare no pains and shrink from no sacrifice in order to content them, and would have a well-grounded hope of succeeding. But to announce concessions in the present state of things would only be to ensure their being spurned, under the influence, or rather the constraint, of the Hellenic volunteers. The first step towards pacifying Crete, and opening the way for liberal institutions there, was to put a stop to the Hellenic invasion. If the Powers really desired to stop the shedding of blood, they could effect this by a simple declaration that they still adhered to the Treaty of Paris, and still maintained the principle of the integrity of the Ottoman Empire. The Porte could not but view with distrust the steps which had been taken by France, in conjunction with Russia, Austria, Italy, and Prussia. They all appeared to lead to the dismemberment of the Empire. It was true that in the fresh proposal which was in contemplation it appeared that the object of the projected Commission was to make inquiry, with a view to administrative reforms, and this would seem to exclude the notion of the separation of Crete from the Empire. Still, it was only natural that the Porte should desire an explicit declaration on this point. If it consented to a proposal which terminated in the cession of Crete to Greece, it would incur the reproach of having allowed itself to be duped as well as despoiled, and this would throw more discredit on the Sultan and his Ministers than to yield simply to force. Fuad Pasha said, in conclusion, that he was deeply grateful for the advice given by Her Majesty Government, and would without loss of time recommend it to the serious attention of his colleagues, and let me know the result.

I observed to his Highness that every hour's delay would be dangerous; that the proposal which he deprecated might arrive at any moment, and the opportunity of preventing the untoward effect of it be lost altogether.

Fuad Pasha said he would bear this in mind, but that he was convinced that if the Porte went to the utmost limit of concession, nay, if it even erected Crete into an autonomous Principality, reserving only the suzerainty of the Sultan, no good would be effected until the Hellenes were disabused of the notion that the island was to be given to them. For his own part, if only the maintenance of the sovereignty of the Sultan over Crete and the integrity of the Empire at large were affirmed by the Powers, he

should be ready and anxious to fall in with their views respecting the future administration of the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 167.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 16.)

(Extract.) *Athens, June* 5, 1867.

ON the 3rd instant the "Arkadi," chased by four Turkish ships, and blockaded in a creek in Cerigotto, was fired at, and a man killed; but it is not certain whether she was in port at the time. The crew have landed. The Greek frigate "Hellas" was sent to Cerigotto with orders to bring her here, but to avoid collision with Turkish ships.

No. 168.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 16.)

(Extract.) *Paris, June* 14, 1867.

AFTER reading Lord Lyons' despatch of the 5th instant, I thought it desirable to see M. de Moustier, and to acquaint his Excellency with the language held by Fuad Pasha to Her Majesty's Ambassador with reference to the proposal about to be renewed from hence, that the Sultan should send a Commission to Candia to ascertain the wants of the Candiots and should invite the Great Powers to name Delegates to accompany it.

I said to M. de Moustier that Fuad Pasha's language had been most courteous towards France; that his Excellency had expressed himself to be sincerely desirous to avoid meeting any proposal of the French Government by a direct refusal, but appeared so thoroughly convinced that an acquiescence in the demand of France, unless that demand were to be accompanied by the assurance that the sovereignty of the Sultan in the Island of Candia would be maintained, must lead to the dismemberment of the Empire, that I had little or no expectation that the Porte would grant the inquiry except under the condition which I had mentioned.

The substance of M. de Moustier's reply was, that he must make the representation in question; that he should do so whether alone or supported by others; that it would not be fair by the Sultan, who was coming to Paris, to leave him in ignorance of the opinions of the French Government upon a point of such importance; and that it would be better to make the communication at once than to defer it until His Majesty's return to Constantinople.

No. 169.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 16.)

My Lord, *Athens, June* 8, 1867.

THE Greek frigate "Hellas," which was sent to the Island of Cerigotto with orders to bring back the "Arkadi" to the Piræus, as I had the honour to inform your Lordship in my despatch of the 5th instant, arrived yesterday. She found that the "Arkadi" had left the island on the 5th of June, and was supposed to have gone to Syra. Some of the intelligence she brought seemed most improbable, but M. Tricoupi told me that what he really believed had happened was that the "Arkadi" after landing volunteers, &c., in Crete, had been chased by the Sultan's yacht, and by three other Turkish ships, which, however, did not get near her. The yacht fired on her, and killed one man and wounded two, and the "Arkadi" ran into a small bay or creek in Cerigotto about 7 o'clock in the evening of the 3rd June, and remained there forty-eight hours. This, he said, was all the authentic intelligence he had received, but he expects to hear more when the Syra boat comes in this evening. The "Hellas" brought a document written in very bad Greek, and signed by Ibrahim Pasha, the Admiral of the Turkish fleet. In this document it is stated that a pirate steamer landed insurgents on the Island of Crete, was chased by a Turkish steamer on which she fired, and that she ran into a harbour in Cerigotto; that he, Ibrahim Pasha, had come to the authorities in Cerigotto

to make known to them that this boat ("Arkadi") was a pirate, and that the inhabitant of the island had prevented his emissary landing, and therefore he protested against the authorities of the island and against the Government of the country for having admitted into their harbour a pirate boat which had fired on a Turkish ship. As nobody in Cerigotto would take charge of it, it is said that this protest, of which a translation is inclosed, was left on a rock in the bay where the "Arkadi" was lying.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 169.

Protest of the Turkish Admiral, Ibrahim Pasha.

(Translation.)

To the Governor of Cerigotto. $\frac{\text{May } 24}{\text{June } 5}$, 1867.

BE it known to you that a pirate steamer came and landed insurgents in the Island of Crete; that this vessel was observed by the steamers blockading Crete; that, being within the waters under blockade, she (the "Arkadi") was chased by the Turkish war-steamer "l'Izzedin," upon which this pirate steamer fired, and then ran into your harbour. Forthwith I came to acquaint you that the said steamer (the "Arkadi") was a pirate vessel, and that the fact might be known to you; but on the approach of the Ottoman steamer of war armed persons from your island immediately came out and fired upon her, refusing to allow any person to land. Now, listen (to what we have to say); you have received (into your harbour) this said pirate boat, and have fired upon the Ottoman steamer of war; we therefore protest, in the name of our Government, against you and your Government.

The Ottoman Admiral,
(Signed) IBRAHIM PASHA.

No. 170.

M. Tricoupi to M. Brailas-Armeni.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. Brailas-Armeni, June* 17.)

M. le Ministre, *Athènes, le* $\frac{\text{24 Mai}}{\text{5 Juin}}$, 1867.

LORSQUE le Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pacha, fut appelé au commandement des forces Turques en Candie je me suis empressé de porter à votre connaissance les renseignements qui nous étaient parvenus, et d'après lesquels le Gouvernement Ottoman, n'espérant plus pouvoir venir à bout de l'insurrection par la force des armes, avait décidé d'user de moyens moins onéreux pour elle et plus efficaces, à son avis, mais reprouvés par le code de la guerre entre nations civilisées.

On nous avait assuré que le système que le Serdar Ekrem devait adopter était de dévaster le pays pour agir sur les insurgés par le denuement et la famine, et d'égorger les femmes et les enfants pour accabler de cette manière ceux que les baionnettes Turques n'avaient pu réduire.

En éffet, dès les premiers pas du Serdar Ekrem en Candie, il a été constaté que les cruautés et les atrocités auxquelles les forces Turques se livraient jusque là étaient dépassées par l'action systématique qui venait d'être inaugurée. Je vous ai tenu au courant de mes données.

Aujourd'hui nous recevons communication d'un document émané du Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie, et adressé aux Consuls résidants à la Canée. Ce document confirme tout ce que je vous avais mandé jusqu'ici, et offre un tableau navrant de la situation de l'île.

En face d'une telle situation, la Grèce ne peut rester silencieuse. Le peuple Grec a le droit d'exiger que le Gouvernement fasse un appel au monde civilisé pour qu'il ne permette pas que des crimes qui déshonorent l'humanité s'accomplissent impunément sous ses yeux.

Il ne serait pas permis au Gouvernement d'oublier en ce moment que les Grecs n'ont point pris une moindre part à la fondation du Royaume de Grèce—qu'ils n'y ont pas moins sacrifié que les Grecs habitants du Royaume. Les Grecs de Candie viennent de manifester hautement et spontanément leur volonté d'être réunis au Royaume de Grèce. Cette déclaration des Crétois ajoute un nouveau titre à ceux que le Royaume de Grèce possède depuis sa création pour plaider la cause de ce peuple devant l'Europe.

Après avoir donné lecture à Lord Stanley de la note adressée aux Consuls par le Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie, veuillez prier son Excellence de vous informer quelles sont les mesures que les Puissances qui ont signé le Traité de 1856 se proposent

de prendre pour mettre fin à un état de choses qui, certes, n'était point entré dans leurs provisions lorsqu'elles signèrent ce Traité.

Le Gouvernement du Roi, se trouvant dans une position difficile, a su, sans manquer à ses devoirs envers ses frères en Candie, sans abdiquer sa position en Orient, ne point troubler la paix de l'Europe.

Les Puissances ne souffriront pas que la Turquie profite de cette paix pour essayer d'étouffer, par la dévastation, l'incendie, le sacrilège, et le meurtre, les efforts d'un noble peuple aspirant à conquérir sa liberté par une guerre loyale et à réunir ses destinées à celles de ses frères du Royaume de Grèce.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) CH. TRICOUPI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, *Athens*, $\frac{\text{May } 24}{\text{June } 5}$, 1857.

WHEN the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, was summoned to command the Turkish forces in Candia, I hastened to make known to you what we had heard, which was, that the Ottoman Government, despairing of putting an end to the insurrection by force of arms, had decided to employ less troublesome, and, in their opinion, more efficient measures, but repudiated by the code of war between civilized nations.

We were assured that the plan which the Serdar Ekrem was to adopt, was to devastate the country, to work on the insurgents by devastation and famine, and to slay the women and children, and to destroy, in this manner, those that the Turkish bayonets had been unable to reach.

In fact, ever since the first appearance of the Serdar Ekrem in Candia, it has been recognized that the cruelties and atrocities perpetrated by the Turkish troops up to that time were far exceeded by the systematic action just inaugurated.

I kept you informed of what I heard.

To-day a document has been communicated to us emanating from the Provisional Government of Candia, and addressed to the Consuls resident in Canea. This document confirms all that I had told you up to now, and gives a harrowing picture of the state of the island.

In face of such a state of things Greece cannot keep silent. The Greek people have the right to require that the Government should appeal to the civilized world to prevent crimes which disgrace humanity from being perpetrated with impunity before its eyes.

The Government must not forget at this moment that the Greeks took no small part in the foundation of the kingdom of Greece; that they made as great sacrifices as the Greek inhabitants of the kingdom. The Greeks of Candia have just loudly and spontaneously declared their wish to be annexed to the kingdom of Greece. This declaration of the Cretans adds a new title to those which the kingdom of Greece possesses since its erection to plead the cause of this people before Europe.

After having read to Lord Stanley the note addressed to the Consuls by the Provisional Government of Candia, you will beg his Excellency to inform you what steps the Powers who signed the Treaty of 1856 propose to take, to put an end to a state of things which certainly was not foreseen when they signed that Treaty.

The Government of the King being in a difficult position has been able, without being wanting in its duties towards its brothers in Candia, without abdicating its position in the East, to leave the peace of Europe undisturbed.

The Powers will not permit Turkey to avail herself of that peace in order to endeavour to crush, by devastation, fire, sacrilege, and murder, the efforts of a noble people aspiring to obtain its liberty by a loyal war, and to reunite its destinies to those of its brothers in the Kingdom of Greece.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CH. TRICOUPI.

Inclosure in No. 170.

Protest of the Provisional Government of Candia to the Consuls residing in Canea.

(Traduction.)

MM. les Consuls, *Imbros (Sphakia), le* $\frac{12}{24}$ *Mai*, 1867.

LA Sublime Porte employant toutes ses forces contre l'Ile de Candie, et faisant ses derniers efforts pour étouffer l'insurrection qui y existe, depuis un an, envoya son Généralissime Omer Pacha avec la mission de pacifier l'île, en exterminant les insurgés.

Le Généralissime ayant tenté de pénétrer dans la province de Sfakia fut complètement repoussé par les insurgés; il fut également battu et poursuivi par eux à Kéramie, province de Cydonie, les $\frac{17}{29}$ et $\frac{18}{30}$ Avril; à Arcondena, province de Réthymne, le $\frac{17\text{ Avril}}{1\text{ Mai}}$; à Patima et Kourna, province d'Apocorona, et à Agropolis, province de Réthymne, le $\frac{20\text{ Avril}}{2\text{ Mai}}$; à Patima et Kourna, de nouveau, le $\frac{21\text{ Avril}}{3\text{ Mai}}$; et dans un combat qui fut livré le $\frac{23\text{ Avril}}{5\text{ Mai}}$ sur le terrain compris entre Molithy, province de Réthymne, Alikambos et Prosneron d'une étendue de vingt milles environ.

S'étant vu forcé de se tourner du côté de la province de Mylopotamo, il fut attaqué par les insurgés dans ses retranchements mêmes qu'il avait construits au Val d'Angeliana, et où il fut obligé de se réfugier dans les deux sorties qu'il tenta, les $\frac{6}{18}$, $\frac{7}{19}$, et $\frac{8}{20}$ du même mois. Vers le même temps le renfort qui lui arrivait d'Héraclion fut complètement battu et poursuivi, pendant vingt-quatre heures, sur toute l'étendue de la province de Milopotamo.

Le $\frac{7}{19}$ il fut poursuivi à Malévisi, et forcé d'abandonner ses positions, à partir d'Assités jusqu'à Pétali, après un combat de treize heures.

Furieux de ces échecs, le Généralissime de la Turquie se venge sur des êtres inoffensifs, sur de faibles vieillards, femmes, et enfants, sur des infirmes de tout âge qui tombent entre ses mains.

Les propriétés des Crétois ne sont pas plus respectées que leurs vies. Le Serdar Ekrem livra à la flamme ou à la hâche les villages d'Episcopé, d'Arcondéna, de Zacridi, de St. Constantin, de Kniffi, de Karoti, et d'Argyropolis, dans la province de Réthymne; les villages de Phylaki, de Patima, de Castelli, de Kourna, de Gramés, de Vafé, de Nipo, de Peromero, de Calamitri, et d'Exopolis, dans la province d'Apocorona; ainsi que ceux de Margaritès, de Tripolli, de Sanga, d'Alpha, de Scordillo, d'Episcopé, et de St. Jean, dans la province de Mylopotamos. Il a détruit les églises qui restaient encore debout, il a fait abattre ou bruler des oliviers, des vignes, et d'autres arbres fruitiers, et détruire les semences et les moulins.

En outre d'une centaine de femmes, d'enfants, et de vieillards qui furent trouvés décapités autour de son camp, et d'autres encore sur différents autres points, il a fait égorger dans la village d'Arcondéna, Marie Koutaxopoulo, Helène Stamatopoulo, et Catherine Milonopoulo. A Zouridi, les frères Manuel et Constantin Démétrius, après avoir eu par ses ordres les yeux crevés et subi, sous les yeux de leurs femmes, la plus barbare des mutilations que la plume se refuse à décrire, ont été ensuite égorgés. A Argyropolis, les nommés Jean Myrès, Manuel Karyllaki, et quatre femmes ont été massacrés. Le même sort ont eu, dans le village de Franceskiana-Metochio, les hommes Nicolas Many, Manuel Francesco, Charalambos Orsuliskos, Antoine Pitarès, George Francesco, et Marc Tronlisko. Dans le village de Atzipopoulo, le nommé Marc Chakia; dans celui de Vedéro, Georges Kaonakis et Manuel Saphérakis; dans les villages de Phylaki, de Kourna, de Patima, et de Castelli quatre hommes ont été pendus et les vieillards massacrés, parmi lesquels deux paralytiques, sur leur lit même; seize femmes et enfants ont été mis en pièces, quelques femmes ont été écorchées vives.

Plus de 1,000 femmes et enfants, pour se soustraire à ces horribles tortures, périrent de froid sur les sommets des montagnes blanches, où ils avaient cherché un refuge, du $\frac{25}{7}$ au $\frac{27\text{ Avril}}{9\text{ Mai}}$, tant ils craignaient de tomber entre les mains du Généralissime de l'Empire Ottoman.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie dénonce à la civilisation et à l'équité du présent siècle ces actes féroces, et proteste devant la justice et l'humanité de vos Gouvernements contre ces moyens illicites et sauvages qu'emploie le Généralissime vaincu à Candie. Il ne croit pas moins devoir appeler votre attention sur la nécessité d'aviser aux moyens nécessaires pour préserver ceux qui se trouvent hors de Candie des maladies contagieuses, telles que le typhus, la petite verole, et l'épidémie cholérique qui se sont développées dans l'armée Turque et la déciment.

Nous vous prions, Messieurs, de vouloir bien soumettre la présente à vos Gouvernements, et d'agréer l'expression de notre respect.

(Signé)

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie.

(See Translation, Inclosure in No. 172, page 153.)

No. 171.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 18.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, June 7, 1867.*

IN my despatch of the day before yesterday I had the honour to report to your Lordship the sentiments expressed by Fuad Pasha with respect to the advice I gave him on the part of Her Majesty's Government to anticipate, by making spontaneously liberal concessions to the Cretans, a proposal from the foreign Powers that a Commission of Inquiry should be sent to the island.

Fuad Pasha spoke to me this morning on the subject more formally in the name of the Porte. He told me that he had communicated the advice of Her Majesty's Government to his colleagues, who felt, as he had done, very grateful for the friendly consideration which had dictated it. They also, he said, shared his opinion with regard to the difficulty of giving effect to it. They thought that unless the hopes which the Hellenes entertained of getting possession of Crete were checked by a distinct declaration from the Powers that the sovereignty of the Sultan would be maintained, no concessions, however large, would be of any avail. They were prepared with a very liberal scheme for the future government of the island, but they were convinced that they should only ensure its failure by promulgating it under present circumstances. They apprehended that so long as the Christian Cretans were subject to the influence, or rather the tyranny, of the Hellenic volunteers, all offers from the Porte would be misrepresented and rejected.

I asked Fuad Pasha whether, according to the scheme of the Porte, a real autonomy would be established in Crete, and a positive share in the government conferred on the Christian population.

I observed to him that the Porte was throwing away the opportunity which Her Majesty's Government had so considerately afforded it of anticipating the proposal which was about to be made by the foreign Powers, and I besought him to consider how much the grace of the concessions would be diminished if, instead of flowing from the spontaneous generosity of the Sultan, they were made under evident pressure from abroad. His Highness still maintained, however, that a necessary preliminary to the announcement of the concessions would be a declaration from the Powers that the integrity of the Ottoman Empire should be maintained in conformity with the stipulations of the Treaty of Paris. If the Powers desired to put a stop to bloodshed, they had merely to make this simple declaration.

Fuad Pasha gave me verbally a sketch of the scheme of the Porte for the future administration of Crete. It did not appear to me to approach autonomy so nearly as to be in accordance with the advice offered by Her Majesty's Government, and I told Fuad Pasha that this was my opinion. He begged me to suspend my judgment.

No. 172.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 19.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June 3, 1867.*

IN transmitting the inclosed copy of a circular protest addressed to the Consuls by the so-called "Provisional Government" of Crete, against the atrocities alleged to have been perpetrated by the Generalissimo since his Highness has taken the field, I feel it a duty to disclaim, as far as my information enables me to do, responsibility for the truth of all the allegations contained in that document. Not having been myself an eye-witness to the horrible scenes thus described, I cannot assert which are facts and what others have been exaggerated; and although I have reason to apprehend, from the fanatical and bitter spirit by which the antagonistic parties are mutually incited, that barbarities have been committed by Basi-bazouks and even the regular troops, and that no quarter is given to the insurgents, I must not impute the blame of such misdeeds solely to Omer Pasha himself. I consider that the soldiery in the present warfare are not always amenable to discipline, still less so when placed beyond the immediate supervision of their commander. It appears to me, at the same time, true that the expeditionary force has not been able to penetrate into Sfakia, or to make any positive headway against the insurgents, without, however, experiencing any serious defeat. The villages described to have been so ruthlessly destroyed by the Generalissimo suffered no doubt on account of the resistance they offered. Many olive and other fruit trees have also been cut down

for fuel. I further regret to have to corroborate the report of much sickness prevailing amongst the Egyptian troops, being fever of a gastric and typhoid character.

It may not be out of place to add, that the "Arkadi" after landing 150 volunteers, ammunition, and provisions, at Sitia, on the 28th ultimo, proceeded to Rodakino and Preveli, and embarked a large number of Cretan families.

A small torpedo has been discovered in Lutro Bay by the "Ertogroul," just as this frigate was dropping its anchor. The torpedo was connected with the mainland in possession of the mountaineers, by galvanic wires. It failed to explode owing to the depth of water in which it had been immersed.

On the 29th, as about thirty unarmed Christians of Keramia were conveying corn to the mills at Kalyves, they were surprised by a band of Cretan irregulars, who murdered nine of them during the night.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Protest of the Provisional Government of Crete to the Consuls residing at Canea.

(Translation.)

To the Consuls, *Imbros, Sphakia, May* $\frac{12}{24}$, 1867.

IN measuring its strength with the Island of Crete and collecting its last forces in order to suppress the insurrection, which has now been kept alive for one year, the Porte has sent hither its Generalissimo, Omer Pasha.

This General having tried to penetrate into Sfakia, has been driven back and pursued by the insurgents at Keramia, in the province of Canea, the $\frac{17}{29}$th and $\frac{18}{30}$th ultimo; at Arkoudena in retimo, the $\frac{19\text{th April}}{1\text{st May}}$; and Patima and Kurna in Apokorona, and at Argyropolis in Retimo, the $\frac{20\text{th April}}{2\text{nd May}}$; again at Patima and Kurna, the $\frac{21\text{st April}}{3\text{rd May}}$; and at the battle fought by the Commander-in-chief in person, the $\frac{28}{5}$th of those months at Aroleethi in Retimo, and extending as far as Alikampo and Prosnero in Apokorona, a distance of twenty-five miles. Compelled to fall back upon Mylopotamos on the Angelica Meadows, he has been attacked by us in his entrenchments, to which he had to retreat on two occasions, the $\frac{6}{18}$th and $\frac{8}{20}$th instants. The reinforcements despatched from Candia to the enemy have been assailed by the Christians, and pursued for twenty-four hours consecutively, over the whole extent of Mylopotamos. On the $\frac{7}{19}$th, the Mussulmans have been repulsed at Malevisi, and dislodged from their position. On the $\frac{3\text{rd}}{15\text{th}}$ May, at Apano-Assites to Petali, after an engagement of thirteen hours.

Enraged with the check he has met with, the Ottoman Commander-in-chief wreaks his revenge on persons unarmed, infirm, aged, and of tender years, who may fall into his hands, as also on the property of Cretans. He had set fire to and destroyed the villages Episkopi, Zouridi, Arkoudena, St. Constantine, Koufi, Carotis, and Argyropolis, in Retimo district. In Apokorona district, the villages Philaki, Patemata, Castelli, Kurna, Dramia, Vafeh, Nipos, Prosnero, Exopolis, and Kalamitzi. In Mylopotamos, those of Tripodo, Margaritès, Langa, Alpha, Scondili, Episkopi, and St. John, destroying everywhere the temples that had until then been spared. He has caused forests of olive trees to be cut down and burnt, as well as vines, fruit trees, fields of corn, mills, &c.

Besides about 100 unarmed Christians, women and children, who were found decapitated around the tents at head-quarters at Dramia, and of many others seen in various localities, the Turks slaughtered at Arkoudena the following women: Maria Kondaxopoula, Helena Stamatopoula, and Catterina Milonopoula. At Zouridi, having plucked out the eyes of Manoli and Constantino Demetrious, and also emasculated them, they then killed them in the presence of their wives. At Argyropolis, they murdered John Myres, Manoli Varidaki, and four women; at the farms of Franceskiaria, Nicolas Morni, Manoli Francesco, Antonio Petari, Kharalambo Drulisco, Georgio Francesco, and Mark Troulesco; at Atzipopoulo, Mark Kharkia; at Bederous, Georgio Koronaki, Manoli Spiraki; at Philaki, Kurna, Patima, and Castelli, they hung four men and slaughtered fourteen old men including two who were palsied, and some six women and children; they also flayed several living women in their faces and bodies.

About 1,000 women, children, and aged men, dreading similar horrible tortures, have in their flight been drowned or lost on the White Mountains during last winter, and from the $\frac{25\text{th April}}{7\text{th May}}$, that they might not fall into the hands of the Ottoman Generalissimo.

The Provisional Government of Crete, while denouncing to the civilization of the nineteenth century such barbarous acts, protests before the justice and humanity of your

respective Governments against these iniquitous and savage means being employed by the Commander of the Ottoman troops in Crete, and hastens to call your attention to the typhus and small pox diseases, and the choleraic symptoms which are decimating the Ottoman army in Crete.

We pray you to submit this letter to your august Government.

Receive, &c.

The Provisional Government of Crete,

(Signed) P. VOLOUDAKIS.
A. MANOUSSELIS.
A. PAPPAYANNAKIS.
E. KRANIOTAKIS.
A. TSIKHLIS.
A. FRANGAKIS.
M. TSOULIEROS

The Secretary,
LEONIDAS GEORGIADIS.

No. 173.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 20, 1867.

THE Greek Minister called upon me some days ago, and left with me a copy of a despatch from his Government, dated the 5th of June, and having for its purport to denounce the conduct which the Greek Government alleged was being pursued by Omer Pasha for the suppression of the insurrection in Crete.

The anticipations of the Greek Government, when the news of Omer Pasha's appointment was received, that it was the intention of the Porte to renounce the system of civilized warfare, and to have recourse to one of devastation and massacre, have, says the despatch, been more than realized; and in confirmation of this allegation the Greek Minister is furnished, for communication to Her Majesty's Government, with a statement dated May $\frac{12}{24}$, and addressed by the so-called Provisional Government in Candia to foreign Consuls in Canea, of which I have also since received a copy from Consul Dickson, containing a detailed enumeration of atrocities said to have been committed by, or under the orders of, Omer Pasha. The Greek Government, says the despatch, cannot remain silent in such a state of things. It cannot forget that the Cretans took no small share in the establishment of the Kingdom of Greece, and made no less sacrifices for that object than the Greeks of the kingdom. The Greeks of Candia have now expressed their desire to be united to the Kingdom of Greece, and this gives them an additional claim on the kingdom that it should plead their cause in the faceof Europe.

Wherefore, the Greek Minister in London is directed to inquire what the Powers, parties to the Treaty of 1856, contemplate doing, to put an end to a state of things which certainly was not contemplated by them when they signed the Treaty.

The Government of Greece, while observing its duties towards its brethren in Candia, and upholding its own position in the East, has done nothing to disturb the peace of Europe. The Powers will not allow the Porte to profit by that peace, in order to extinguish by acts of destruction, fire, sacrilege and murder, the efforts of a noble people seeking to achieve its independence in honourable warfare, and to unite its fortunes with those of its brethren in the kingdom.

I informed M. Brailas Armeni that I knew nothing of any such Provisional Government of Crete as that from which the document inclosed in the despatch purported to emanate; but that I could not refuse to receive any document which might be brought to my notice by the Government of Greece, it being distinctly understood that I regarded it simply as a communication proceeding from certain individuals in their private capacity.

I am, &c

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 174.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 21.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 12, 1867.*

I RECEIVED on the 7th instant a telegram from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, informing me that intelligence had reached the Greek Government that the "Arkadi" was in a creek in the Island of Cerigotto, blockaded by four Turkish ships, and that a shot had been fired at her, but that it was not certain whether or no she was in Greek waters at the time.

I immediately spoke to Fuad Pasha on the subject. He said that he thought it very unlikely that anything not warranted by the law of nations had really been done by the Ottoman cruizers. Very stringent instructions on this head had been (as I was aware) issued some time ago by the Porte. He was already aware that the intelligence which I had mentioned had been received by the Greek Government, and on hearing this he had immediately sent instructions by telegraph to Photiades Bey, to warn the commanders of the Ottoman cruizers afresh, against violating in any respect the rules of maritime public law.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 175.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June 21, 1867.*

IT appears by your Excellency's telegrams of the 15th, 16th, and 18th instant, that the dragomans of France, Italy, and Prussia made on the 14th instant a written communication to the Porte recommending the appointment of a Turkish Commission of Inquiry to be sent to Crete, to be accompanied, at the invitation of the Porte, by Delegates from the Powers; that the Internuncio made a similar communication in writing on the 16th; but that the Russian dragoman, though associated with those of the three first-named Powers, did not deliver any written paper, on the ground that it was superfluous to add another copy of an identic document.

It thus appears that the Porte has not thought proper, by a timely declaration of the intentions of the Sultan in regard to Crete, to anticipate the proposal which they had sure information was about to be made by some of the Powers of Europe; and this having been the case, your Excellency will doubtless have felt authorized, under the instructions conveyed to you by telegraph and in my despatch of the 3rd of June, to recommend the Porte to accept, under the limitations set forth in my despatch, the proposal of the French Government, supported by the other Governments that I have named, for the despatch to Crete of a Commission of Inquiry, to be appointed by the Porte, and to be accompanied, at the invitation of the Sultan, by Delegates named by the Powers.

If you have not already done so, my telegram of this day will have apprized you that you should offer your recommendation without further delay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 176.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 22.)

(Extract.) *Athens, June 12, 1867.*

A REPORT, written by the captain of that vessel, respecting the last voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete, has been published, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of it.

The Turkish Minister received to-day a letter from M. Tricoupi, protesting against the proceedings of the Turkish vessels in having fired on the "Arkadi" in Greek waters, and having blockaded the Greek port Potamo, in Cerigoto, where the "Arkadi" took refuge. Photiades Bey has sent this letter home, and will wait for instructions from his Government before giving any answer. The vessel which chased the "Arkadi" is called "Izreddin," and not "Fuad," and is one of the Sultan's yachts.

Inclosure in No. 176.

Report of Captain Angelicara, Commander of the "Arkadi," on is thirteenth Voyage.

NOUS partîmes de Syra le Samedi 20 Mai, à 11 heures du soir, avec un chargement de vivres et de munitions destinés pour Ennéa Choria (Kissamos) et Psari Forada (Rizos). Nous arrivâmes le 21 à 4 heures après-midi à Ennéa Choria. Nous débarquâmes tout le chargement de vivres en trois heures avec le plus grand ordre et la plus grande tranquillité. Nous partîmes de là à 7 heures du soir. Le lendemain, Lundi 22, à 6 heures du matin, nous trouvant en face de Psari Forada nous vîmes la fumée d'un bateau-à-vapeur. Nous changeâmes, en conséquence, de direction, et nous allâmes vers Capetaniana ou Cofina, à quinze milles environ de Psari Forada. Nous y arrivâmes à 7 heures et demi, et nous commençâmes à débarquer les munitions. Le bâtiment ennemi que nous avions vu se dirigeait sur nous. Nous continuâmes le déchargement, et nous le terminâmes à 7 heures et trois-quarts. A 8 heures nous partîmes. A peine avions-nous tourné le promontoire de Capitania que nous vîmes derrière nous le bâtiment ennemi qui se mit à nous donner la chasse. Nous continuâmes notre marche à toute vitesse, nous dirigeant vers le promontoire Crios. A 10 heures nous nous trouvâmes près des Iles Paximadia, en face de Tymbakia. Là était un autre bâtiment ennemi sous vapeur. Averti par les signaux du premier il commença lui aussi la chasse. Notre marche était vers Gavdon.

A une distance de quatorze milles de cet îlot nous vîmes une frégate et une corvette Turques qui avaient elles aussi commencé la chasse. De sorte que nous étions poursuivis par quatre bâtiments ennemis. La frégate s'approcha de nous à jusqu'à une distance de cinq milles en-dehors de Gavdon; elle nous tira un coup de canon, mais le boulet ne nous atteignit pas. A 2 heures du soir nous laissâmes loin derrière nous la frégate et les autres bâtiments, mais le premier qui avait commencé la chasse s'approchait de nous. A 3 heures il était tout près à une portée de canon et il commença à nous canonner. Nous ne jugeâmes pas convenable de risposter, car nous étions encore dans les eaux Turques. A 5 heures nous entrâmes dans les eaux Grecques; nous étions à une portée de canon de Cérigotto. Alors j'ordonnai immédiatement d'ouvrir le feu. Le feu commença très vif des deux côtés, et continua jusqu'à ce que, par diverses évolutions, nous pûmes entrer à Cérigotto. Deux boulets ennemis seulement étaient tombés dans notre bâtiment. Elles nous avaient causé quelques pertes. Le matelot Kyriaco, de Psara, homme de 30 ans, fut tué sur sa pièce: Démétrios Couloulis, de Psara, fut blessé sur la même pièce: sur un autre pièce furent blessés le sous-officier Zachariou, Hydréote, âgé de 32 ans, et Théodore Cassiotis, Hydréote, âgé de 60 ans. "L'Arcadion" n'a subi aucun dommage sérieux; il a été percé seulement en deux endroits sur les parapets et à éprouvé un certain dommage à descente ("κουβοῦσι").

Les pertes de l'ennemi ont été, je crois, beaucoup plus considérables. Nos canonniers tiraient avec plus de succès. Un assez grand nombre de nos boulets tombés dans l'intérieur du bâtiment ennemi y ont causé assez de dégats, ce que nous présumons de ce que l'ennemi fut à la fin obligé de virer à gauche et de nous laisser le passage libre, de sort que nous entrâmes sans être inquiétés à Cérigotto. Le bâtiment ennemi s'arrêta en dehors du port, attendant, à ce qu'il paraît, des secours. Soupçonnant une attaque des bâtiments ennemis dans le port de Cérigotto j'ordonnai à une partie des équipages de sortir à terre en armes et d'occuper de fortes positions. Le reste de l'équipage resta dans l'intérieur du bâtiment en position de combat. A peine les hommes étaient-ils débarqués, que l'ennemi leur lança quelques coups de canon qui furent sans effet. La nuit de Lundi il arriva en dehors de Cérigotto un autre bâtiment ennemi. Les deux bâtiments s'étant approchés de l'entrée du port s'arrêtèrent. L'un d'eux entra dans le port le matin de Mardi et de Mercredi, mais il sortit sans nous inquiéter. Nous le laissâmes donc tranquille nous aussi, quoique nous fussions prêts pour le combat. Du haut d'une hauteur nous observâmes au loin la mer et nous vîmes que le bâtiment avec lequel nous nous étions battus avait jeté ses embarcations à la mer et que l'une chargée de morts et de blessés se dirigeait vers la forteresse de Kissamos. Mardi matin il arriva en dehors de Cérigotto un autre bâtiment ennemi. Tous les trois restèrent sous vapeur à l'entrée du port de Cérigotto jusqu'à Mercredi. Alors arriva un autre bâtiment ennemi et tous les quatre partirent ensemble. Je fis ensevelir à terre le matelot tué et nous débarquâmes à Cérigo avec une embarcation le blessé Zacharias.

Nous partîmes de Cérigotto le Mercredi 24, à 2 heures de l'après-midi. En partant nous vîmes la fumée des bâtiments Turcs qui se dirigeaient vers la Canée. Au bout d'une heure deux d'entre eux changèrent de direction et allèrent vers Cérigotto. Nous autres nous avançâmes sans avoir peut-être été vus et arrivâmes à Syra à 11 heures et un quart du soir du même jour.

En terminant ce rapport je dois exprimer ma satisfaction aux officiers, y compris les mécaniciens, au pilote, et à l'équipage du bâtiment pour le courage, le sang-froid, qu'ils ont montré durant tout le temps de ce petit combat naval. Je dois surtout exprimer ma reconnaissance aux capitaines marchands qui par simple émulation et par un sentiment amical ont voulu me suivre dans ce voyage. Quelques-uns d'entre eux ont pris une part très active au combat. Je me réserve de donner à qui de droit une note spéciale de ceux qui se sont le plus distingués.

(Translation.)

WE left Syra on Saturday the 20th of May at 11 o'clock at night with a cargo of provisions and munitions destined for Ennéa Choria (Kissamos), and Psari Forada (Rizos). We arrived at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 21st at Ennéa Choria. We disembarked all the cargo of provisions in three hours with the greatest order and quiet. We left at 7 o'clock in the evening. The next day, Monday the 22nd, at 6 o'clock in the morning, being opposite to Psari Forada, we saw the smoke of a steamer. We changed our course in consequence, and we bore away for Capetaniana or Cofina, about 15 miles from Psari Forada. We arrived there at half-past 7, and we began to land the stores. The enemy's vessel we had seen made for us. We continued to land the stores, and we finished at a quarter to 8. We left at 8 o'clock. We had just rounded the promontory of Capitania when we saw the enemy astern, who immediately gave us chase. We went a-head at full speed, making for the promontory of Crios. At 10 o'clock we were near the Islands of Paximadia, opposite Tymbakia. There was another enemy's steamer with steam up. Being signalled by the first vessel he also gave us chase. Our course was towards Gavdon.

At a distance of 14 miles from that islet we saw a Turkish frigate and corvette, who also began to give chase, so that we were pursued by four of the enemy's vessels. The frigate outside Gavdon got within 5 miles of us; she fired a shot, but the ball did not reach us. At 2 o'clock in the evening we left the frigate and the other ships far behind us, but the first that gave us chase gained on us. At 3 o'clock it was about a cannon-shot off us and opened fire. We thought it better not to return it, for we were still in Turkish waters. At 5 o'clock we entered Greek waters; we were about a cannon-shot from Cerigotto. Then I immediately opened fire: very brisk firing commenced on both sides, and lasted till after various evolutions we managed to get into Cerigotto. Only two of the enemy's shots fell on board. They caused us some loss. The sailor Kyriaco, from Psara, a man aged 30, was killed at his gun. Démétrios Couloulis, of Psara, was wounded at the same gun. At another gun the under-officer Zacharion, of Hydra, aged 32, and Theodore Cassiotis, of Hydra, aged 60, were wounded. The "Arcadion" sustained no serious damage, the bulwarks were only pierced in two places, and she sustained some damage à descente (κουβούσι).

The loss of the enemy was, I believe, far greater. Our gunners shot better. A good proportion of our shots fell on board the enemy's ship and caused them some loss, which we presume from the fact of the enemy being obliged to veer to the left and leave us the passage open so that we got into Cerigotto without being interfered with. The enemy's vessel laid off the port waiting, it would seem, for assistance. Suspecting an attack of the enemy's vessels in the port of Cerigotto, I ordered a part of the crew to land under arms, and to occupy some strong positions. The rest of the crew remained on board at quarters. The men had scarcely disembarked when the enemy fired some shots at them which did not take effect. On Monday night another enemy's vessel arrived off Cerigotto. The two vessels having arrived at the entrance of the port lay-to. One of them entered the port the mornings of Tuesday and Wednesday, but sailed out without disturbing us. We also refrained from attacking them, though we were ready for battle. From the top of a hill we could see the sea at a distance, and we saw that the vessel we had fought had lowered her boats, and that one of them filled with dead and wounded was making for the fortress of Kissamos.

On Tuesday another enemy's vessel arrived off Cerigotto. All the three remained under steam at the entrance of the harbour of Cerigotto till Wednesday. Then another enemy's vessel arrived, and all the four left in company. The dead sailor was buried on shore, and we landed the wounded man Zacharias in a boat at Cerigo.

We left Cerigotto Wednesday the 24th at 2 P.M. As we left we saw the smoke of the Turkish vessels, who were sailing towards Canea. After about an hour two of them changed their course and went towards Cerigotto. We went on without, perhaps, having been seen, and arrived at Syra at a quarter-past 11 in the evening of the same day.

I cannot end this report without expressing my satisfaction to the officers, including the engineers, pilot, and the crew, at the courage and coolness they showed during this little sea-fight. I must above all express my thanks to the captains of merchantmen who from pure zeal and friendly feeling accompanied me on this cruize. Some of them took a very active part in the combat. I mean to give a special list to the proper authorities of those who most distinguished themselves.

No. 177.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Reveived June* 22.)

My Lord, *Athens, June* 13, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose two despatches which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, reporting the last voyage of the "Arkadi," and the news which he had received from Crete.

I have also the honour to inclose a report published by the Cretan Commission here, containing the latest news received from Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 177.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, June* 5, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Austrian steamer from Crete arrived here early this morning, and the boats for Athens and Constantinople left soon after. The only news I can learn is the following :—

A letter from the town of Candia of the $\frac{22 \text{ May}}{3 \text{ June}}$ says :—

On the $\frac{20\text{th May,}}{1\text{st June,}}$ Omer Pasha left Spilia with 10,000 or 12,000 men to attack the Christians at Kera (near Abdon), and arrived at Castelli of Pediades; the same day 1,000 Cretans and volunteers under Petropolaki and Cretan chiefs came from Retimo, and joined the others at Kera. There was a rumour here to-day of a fight at Pediades, and that many wounded Turks were brought into the fortress last night; and a postscript of the same letter says :—This moment it is stated as certain that Omer Pasha having attacked yesterday the Christians at Kera, he was repulsed and retreated to Castelli of Pediades. No native Christian is allowed to leave or enter the fortress of Heraclion, and therefore the report is considered as true.

A letter from Korakas, dated Krassi, $\frac{18}{30}$th May states :—We learn from a letter from our men from Imbaro that they have taken eight Turkish prisoners, and that they are going to bring them to us, and that all the prisoners, including those of Demetrakarakos, amount to twenty-four. The Turks having sent the avant-garde to the village of Koustomonnitza, they were repulsed by the Christians at Karessfrigadthi, leaving three killed, and that fighting will re-commence the following day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 177.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, June* 7, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report the thirteenth voyage to Crete, and return to Syra of the "Arkadi."

She left Syra on the 1st instant with provisions, ammunition, stores, rifles, and about thirty volunteers, all which she landed at Stomio (Agio Nicola), on the west coast of Crete, and at Kepetaniana (about three miles west of Martello on the south coast), and brought away fifteen women and children from Stomio, and one Greek officer, one American, and five volunteers come from Crete to Cerigotto the night before the "Arkadi" left.

The "Arkadi" was pursued by Turkish vessels, and appears to have narrowly escaped.

She was fired at repeatedly and returned the fire of a fast paddle-boat which was gaining on her opposite the west coast of Crete; but she ultimately got safe into the harbour of Cerigotto. One man was killed on board the "Arkadi" by a round shot, which striking also the iron combings of the hatchway, was found on board; and one or two others were wounded by the splinters of the bulwarks through which on both sides another ball passed; the funnels were also struck by grape-shot. The Turkish vessel is reported also to have received some damage from the "Arkadi's" round shot and shells, some of which latter exploded on board the Turkish vessel.

After being watched some time in Cerigotto harbour by the Turkish vessels, the latter left her, and she got away and arrived here very early on the morning of the 5th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 177.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee, published June 13, 1867.

Dernieres Nouvelles de Candie.—Les dernières lettres de Candie vont jusqu'au 30 Mai (v. s.)

D'après ces lettres les Chrétiens de la province de la Canée sous le commandement du vieux Costaros et de M. Zimbrakaki ont livré deux batailles et remporté deux victoires sur Mehmet Pacha, campé à Vrysses à la tête de 5,000 Turcs.

Le premier de ces combats a été livré le 20 Mai au village de Vafè où l'ennemi s'était fortifié, après avoir été provoqué à sortir de ses rentranchements de Vrysses. Attaqué vivement par les insurgés il avait dû abandonner ses fortifications de Vafè et se retirer poursuivi à coups de fusil jusque dans ses tentes à Vrysses. Les insurgés revinrent victorieux à Vafè, vengeant ainsi leurs frères morts héroiquement au même endroit il y a quelques mois. A ce combat ont pris part les Sphakiotes, les Apocoroniotes, les Cydoniotes et les volontaires.

L'autre combat a été livré le 23 Mai de Fré à Nipous et près du village de Tzitzifé. L'ennemi, après beaucoup de pertes, a dû abandonner ses positions et revenir en hâte dans ses rentranchements de Vrysses.

Des districts orientaux nous apprenons que depuis le 20 Mai, jour où a commencé l'attaque d'Omer Pacha contre Lassithion, jusqu'au 30 Mai, jour où le bateau à vapeur est partie, aucun victoire, aucune succès du Général Ottoman n'a été annoncé à Héraclion. Au contraire l'arrivée quotidienne de blessés durant la dernière quinzaine à Héraclion et à Rethymne, la tristesse générale des Turcs d'Héraclion, l'appel précipité de trois bataillons réguliers de Rethymne le 23 Mai, pour renforcer le Général-en-chef, la demande faite par lui à Constantinople de dix bataillons, tout cela démontre que les affaires d'Omer à Lassithion ne vont pas bien.

On assurait à Héraclion d'après des renseignements de source Turque, les communications étant sévèrement interdites avec les Chrétiens, que non seulement Omer Pacha avait été repoussé à l'attaque du 20 Mai contre Lassithion, mais que l'attaque ayant été tentée de nouveau le 23, il avait eu le même sort. Suivant d'autres renseignements les insurgés, ayant laissé avancer un corps de Turcs dans un étroit passage de Lassithion, l'avaient immédiatement pris par derrière, coupant ainsi ses communications avec Omer Pacha.

Omer Pacha cependant continue à rester à Castélion de Pédiada à quelques heures d'Héraclion. Les insurgés, dont Omer Pacha évalue le nombre à 10,000 pour justifier ses insuccès jusqu'à ce jour, continuent à conserver toutes les positions fortifiées qu'ils occupaient à Lassithion.

A la Canée en apprenant que "l'Arcadion" était bloqué à Cérigotto par les bâtiments Turcs, on avait tenu un conseil dans lequel on avait décidé qu'il fallait l'attaquer même dans le port neutre de Cérigotto. Dans ce but l'Amiral Turc lui-même était allé à Cérigotto accompagné de plusieurs Beys qui désiraient voir de leurs propres yeux la destruction de "l'Arcadion." Mais n'ayant pas trouvé ce bâtiment diabolique à Cérigotto ils étaient revenus pleins de tristesse.

Le bateau à vapeur "l'Izzeddin," qui a combattu contre "l'Arcadion" dans les eaux Grecques, a subi assez de dommages, car un boulet de "l'Arcadion" l'a traversé dans toute sa largeur près des roues et a lui tué deux matelots.

De Malévyzion et de Pédiada on nous annonce encore de nouveaux massacres d'êtres innocents et faibles et de nouvelles dévastations.

Espérons que l'insuccès de soixante-cinq jours du grand général de la Turquie a enfin convaincu toute l'Europe Chrétienne que l'héroïque révolution des Crétois est indomptable, et que la continuation des massacres et des dévastations en Crète est une pure inhumanité.

(Translation.)

Latest Accounts from Candia.—The last letters from Candia date up to May 30 (o.s.).

According to these letters the Christians of the Province of Canea, under the command of the elder Costaros and of M. Zimbrakaki, had twice given battle and gained two victories over Mehemet Pasha, who was encamped at Vrysses at the head of 5,000 Turks.

The first of these engagements took place on the 20th May at the village of Vafè, where the enemy had fortified himself after having been tempted to make a sortie from his entrenchment at Vrysses. Being sharply attacked by the insurgents he was obliged to abandon his fortifications at Vafè, and to withdraw, under fire, to his tents at Vrysses. The insurgents returned victorious to Vafè, thus avenging the heroic death of their brothers at the same place, some months previously. The Sfakiotes, the Apocoroniotes, Cydoniotes, and the volunteers, took part in this engagement.

The other battle took place May 23rd from Fré to Nipous, and near the village of Tzitzifé. The enemy, after severe loss, was forced to abandon his positions and to retreat in haste to his entrenchments at Vrysses.

From the eastern districts we learn that from the 20th May, the day on which Omer Pasha commenced his attack against Lassithion, until the 30th May, the day on which the steam-boat left, no victory or success of the Ottoman General had been announced at Heraclion. On the contrary, the daily arrival of wounded at Heraclion and Retimo during the last fortnight, the general dejection prevailing among the Turks at Heraclion, the hasty summoning of three battalions of regulars from Retimo on the 23rd May to reinforce the General-in-Chief, the request made by him at Constantinople for ten battalions,—all show that things were not going on well with Omer Pasha at Lassithion.

It was confidently affirmed at Heraclion, according to information from a Turkish source, that communication with the Christians was strictly forbidden, and that Omer Pasha had not only been repulsed at the attack on Lassithion of the 20th May, but that the attack having been again attempted on the 23rd, he met with no better success.

According to other accounts, the insurgents having permitted a body of Turks to advance into a narrow defile of Lassithion, had immediately taken it in the rear, thus cutting off its communications with Omer Pasha.

Omer Pasha, however, continues to remain at Castelion de Pédiada, some hours distant from Heraclion. The insurgents, whom Omer Pasha numbers at 10,000, to account for his ill-success up to this time, continue to retain all the fortified positions they occupied at Lassithion.

In Canea, on learning that the "Arcadion" was blockaded at Cerigotto by the Turkish vessels, a Council of War was held, in which it was decided that even in the neutral port of Cerigotto it must be attacked. For this end the Turkish Admiral himself had gone to Cerigotto accompanied by several Beys, who wished to see for themselves the destruction of the "Arcadion." But not having found this infernal vessel at Cerigotto, they returned out of spirits.

The steam-boat "Izzeddin," which was engaged against the "Arcadion" in the Greek waters, has been pretty-well damaged, for a shot from the "Arcadion" has passed clean through her paddle-boxes and killed two of her sailors.

From Malévyzion and Pédiada we hear of fresh massacres of weak and innocent beings, and also of fresh devastations.

Let us hope that the sixty-five days' ill-success of the great Turkish General has at last convinced all Christian Europe that the heroic revolution of the Cretans cannot be crushed, and that the continuation of the massacres and devastations in Crete is an outrage on humanity.

No. 178.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June 22, 1867.*

THE French Ambassador called upon me to-day and read to me a despatch from the French Consul at Canea to M. de Moustier, the purport of which is as follows:—

Since Omer Pasha came things had gone worse. At first there was some success, many volunteers gave up their arms, the villages of the plains submitted. Omer's first object was to strike a blow at Sfakia. He has found unexpected difficulty. Details are not easy to ascertain, but the plan appears to have failed. His next step appears to have been an attempt to establish a blockade. This, the Consul thinks, has been a failure also. The third plan was to divide the island in two and thus localize the insurrection. To-day the whole island is in a state of revolt. The eastern part, hitherto peaceable, has joined the insurgents. The volunteers from abroad are about 4,000, the native insurgents about as many. The configuration of the island favours their attempt. The "Arkadi" plies regularly twice a week, and is to be joined by another steamer lately purchased. One torpedo has been found by the Turks, and it is believed that an American has been laying down a good many.

The regular troops on the Turkish side are 25,000, of whom 11,000 are Egyptians. They are suffering from the climate, badly fed and clothed, and medical attendance is scanty.

Volunteers on the Turkish side are about 7,000 strong. They fight better than the regulars, but with more ferocity, and the excesses committed are due mainly to them. Of this force a great part must be left in chief posts and to protect communications. Omer Pasha has not above 18,000 men with whom he can operate. The naval force is weak and ineffective. The "Arkadi" was lately more than twenty-four hours discharging stores, &c.

The troops make no impression. Even when a district submits, it does so only for the moment, and rises again as soon as the troops are gone.

It is the unanimous opinion of the Consuls and other foreigners that no decisive result can be obtained. The distress and desolation of the island are excessive. Omer Pasha's measures of late have been marked by great cruelty. His object is now to starve out the districts which resist by establishing a cordon round them and refusing permission to any one to obtain provisions. Olive trees and crops have been destroyed. The feeling of animosity on both sides is extremely violent.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 179.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June 5, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Dr. Sawas Bey called at this port yesterday, coming from Retimo, on his way to Constantinople. I am informed that he has left this island in conformity with instructions from the Imperial Government.

In regard to the proceedings of the Relief Commission, I may state that Server Effendi lately received some 50,000 okes of flour from Constantinople for the relief of the sufferers, and part of which quantity has been distributed in this town, where the number of families in distress, Christian and Mussulman, is comparatively much smaller than that at the two other principal towns.

The British Consular Agent at Retimo has lately written to me that the Commission is issuing at the rate of 4 lbs. of flour and three quarters of a lb. of beans every third day to each adult. Omer Pasha, while staying in the town of Retimo, having made a round of visits to the houses in which the sufferers are lodged, had caused an additional ration to be given to each

On the 23rd ultimo, the Russian frigate "Grand Admiral" having called at Retimo, Captain Boutakoff made a gift of twenty-five sacks of biscuit and fifteen of flour to the sufferers by the insurrection, which food has been distributed with the approval of the Relief Commission. The captain subsequently delivered over to the Russian Consular Agent, to be similarly appropriated, 1,000 francs, the proceeds of a subscription raised on board his ship amongst all the officers.

Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino reports from Candia, under date the 3rd instant, that the Commission has been giving out a small quantity of flour daily to the poor, indiscriminately, in that town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 180.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June 7, 1867.*

THE Consular Agent at Retimo has furnished me with a letter, of which I have the honour to inclose a translation, reporting the onward movement of the expeditionary force under the personal command of the Generalissimo since the date of his last report on the subject (20th ultimo); the skirmishes that took place on the line of march, namely, at Melidoni, Morakhidis, Perama, White-Aniforon, Margarites, Gharaso; advance on Anoya through Livadia, Zelakon, Axo, and Theokourion; and a series of outrages enumerated as having been committed by order of Omer Pasha, &c.

In regard to this last imputation, I regret that Mr. G. Calocherino, confined as he has been to his bed for some days past by bodily suffering, should only view such facts through the magnifying medium of apprehension, or that he derived his information from a source which I cannot but consider an essentially partial one.

A respectable person just arrived from Candia, where he had many opportunities afforded him for ascertaining the truth of much that has been taking place, asserts that barbarities have undoubtedly been committed by both of the contending parties, yet not of such enormity as those depicted by Mr. G. Calocherino. The order for burning villages had, in fact, been given, but was only carried into effect when these offered armed resistance; or, in the case of others, because, having been found empty, it was inferred that the inhabitants had abandoned them for the purpose of taking an active part in the insurrection.

As will be seen by the accompanying copy of Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino's report, Reschid Pasha had left Candia town on the 16th ultimo, at the head of a strong column, and, after sustaining some severe losses at the engagement which occurred at Damasta on the 18th, he succeeded in effecting a junction with Omer Pasha, the following day, at Angeliana. Continuing their march as far as Tylissus, the two co-operating bodies then encamped at Spilia, within three miles of Candia town.

Owing to the reinforcements brought to the southern shores of the island by the "Arkadi," and the daily influx into Candia province of the enemy from Sphakia and St. Vassili, the Ottoman Commander did not deem it advisable to expose any longer the troops that were guarding the fertile and tranquil districts of Malevese, Temenos, and Messara. These were accordingly withdrawn to strengthen the main body preparatory to its march on Lasethe, and where a number of Hellenes and Cretan insurgents, conjecturally estimated at 1,000, are stated to be congregating under the leadership of Captains Korakas and Dimitrakarakos. Hence, the whole of the central districts and plains of the island, with the strongholds of Sphakia and Lasethe for their flanks, are now in undisputed occupation of the insurgents. Coroneos is in those parts directing operations, Zimbrakakis retaining command of Sphakia.

Up to the 4th instant I learnt that Omer Pasha had reached Castle Pediada, while Reschid Pasha was praparing to force the passage into the Lasethe mountains.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian" returned to the port the day before yesterday without touching at Candia, as I anticipated the ship would do when addressing your Lordship on the 27th ultimo.

Early this week, and while off Sphakia, the "Arkadi" having been sighted by the "Izreddin" cruizer, was closely chased as far as Cerigotto, where it was soon blockaded by two other Turkish ships. Vice-Admiral Ibrahim Pasha having been apprized of this occurrence, hastened to the spot, but only to find that the blockade-runner had already effected its escape. A few shots have been exchanged between the "Izreddin" and "Arkadi."

Mehmet Pasha's division, which is entrenched at Prosnero, is rumoured to be in imminent danger of having its communication with Canea cut off.

The "Salamander" has just returned from conveying the newly-appointed French Consul, M. Tricou, to Candia, on an official visit to Omer Pasha. His predecessor, M. Derché, has been transferred to Trebizond.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 180.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, May* $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

THE Generalissimo has left for Mylopotamos, as I have already reported. His Highness having proceeded to the village of Angeliana, the inhabitants of the whole province were summoned to tender their submission and produce sureties from each village. Instead of doing so, the families retired to the mountains under the protection of Coroneos. The insurgents then attacked the Ottoman troops at Melidoni, Morakhidis, Perama, and White Aniforon. The former, to the number of 2,000, feigned a retreat, in order to allure the Turks towards Margaritès village, which they succeeded in doing. An engagement ensued near Melidoni, lasting more than an hour, and another at Margaritès, which did not cease until the evening. The troops suffered severely.

Reschid Pasha issued from Candia the same day with 2,000 troops, and passing through Maratho village went to the monastery of St. Pantaleimonos, which was burnt down.

Continuing on to Damasta, he was informed that the Christians were preparing to attack him at Margaritès. He, however, marched the whole of that night, that he might join Omer Pasha. At Doxaro he was harassed by the insurgents, and obliged to retreat to Perama, leaving many killed, and with the loss of all his baggage, besides sixty animals.

On the $\frac{7}{19}$th May, the Turkish army set fire to the villages of Margaritès, Melidoni, and Pleurana, slaughtering sixteen old men, some of whom were cast into the fire. Two infants were murdered at their mother's breasts, others likewise thrown into the fire. All the women present having been violated, were next killed. All the churches have been destroyed, and the atrocities committed in general are such as not to admit of description.

The Generalissimo, on the $\frac{8}{20}$th, having quitted Angeliana, came in the evening to Gharaso, where he encamped. All the villages on the line of march were fired, and every living soul put to the sword. This was done in order that no intelligence should be carried to the rebel camp, and thus enable the troops to surprise the latter more easily. Meanwhile the irregulars were sent forward to fight the Christians at Khumeri, where a strong body of insurgents were posted; also at Avdela and St. Joannis. The Christians, having understood the manœuvres of the Ottoman Commander, withdrew farther into the interior, allowing the Turks to advance unopposed, and, as the latter commenced firing the villages, the Christians made a rush upon them, seizing several prisoners and seven horse-loads of provisions, &c. They pursued the Turks as far as Gharaso, where the fight became fierce and bloody.

The $\frac{9\text{th}}{21\text{st}}$ May, his Highness left Gharaso for Anoya. In passing through Livadia, Zelekon, Axo, and Theokourion, all of which he destroyed, the insurgents closely followed him until the evening, when firing ceased. During these three days the troops experienced many losses in every way. Numerous Turkish corpses are lying on the ruins of villages unburied. It is reckoned that nearly one thousand Turks must have been killed. On one occasion Omer Pasha's tent was riddled with bullets, and he himself nearly made prisoner. The Christian loss has been comparatively trifling, except that of aged men, women, and children be taken into account. The number of villages destroyed amounts to seventeen.

On the morning of the $\frac{14}{26}$th May another steamer arrived, and took away our Lieutenant-Governor, in pursuance of orders from Omer Pasha. This city has until this day been left without a Governor. Suleyman Bey has been named to act for him, but declined the offer without having the same in writing. I may add that a Christian, who has for some time past been living peaceably at Atzipopoulo, has been imprisoned until he should deliver up his arms. He said he had none, and was accordingly ill-treated day and night, and at last an iron ring was put on his neck. He had a gun purchased for him, and, on delivering it to the authorities, was liberated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

P.S.—Regular troops are going backwards and forwards to the villages, destroying houses which belong to those Christians who are absent with the insurgents, and no measure is taken to prevent the property of peaceable inhabitants being damaged and robbed. On complaints being made in the proper quarter, the authorities merely pretend to do justice.

May $\frac{18}{30}$.—A paper has just been forwarded to me by the "Cretan Provisional Government," addressed to the three Protecting Powers. It is a protest against the atrocities committed by Omer Pasha. Never has such a state of things been witnessed. During Mustapha Pasha's government of the island excesses have been committed, but nothing to compare with what has been done since Omer Pasha arrived.

Yesterday, at noon, some 1,500 regulars and irregulars went to Atzipopoulo village, and, having sacked and destroyed several houses during the night, returned to town.

The same evening an Ottoman frigate came in from Candia, and brought back about seventy Cretan Turks, who left this with Omer Pasha. They were in charge of eight or ten mules.

G C.

Inclosure 2 in No. 180.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, June* 3, 1867.

AS I had the honour to state to you in my despatch of the 18th ultimo, his Excellency Reschid Pasha on the 16th advanced on the district of Mylopotamos, and it seems that he had thought that Omer Pasha with his troops was approaching to this town, and for that reason he had taken with him only 600 regulars and 300 irregulars to meet Omer Pasha.

At that date, however, the latter had advanced only as far as the village Angeliana, in Mylopotamos, at which village an engagement was then taking place. Reschid Pasha before meeting his Highness in Angeliana found himself in a very dangerous position, on account of the very small force that was with him. The insurgents having learnt that Reschid was coming, sent a detachment against him. This met him at the village Damasta, and attacked him on the morning of the 18th. The engagement lasted during the whole of the day until the night of the next day, while his Excellency was slowly marching from the above mentioned village to Perama, in the same district of Mylopotamos. He lost a considerable number of men, provisions, and ammunition. The number of the insurgents who attacked him is unknown.

His Excellency having left Perama, met Omer Pasha at Angeliana, at which village they bivouacked, and on the morning of the 20th advanced towards this district; three engagements took place at various positions, and on the night of the 22nd they reached the village Telesos, in Malevisi, having unhappily in their passage through Mylopotamos burnt a great number of villages, and having profaned and pillaged a large number of churches and convents. The number of killed and wounded in the Ottoman army is unknown, but is supposed to be considerable. The losses of the insurgents are also unknown.

It is stated that some unarmed Christians at the villages Melidoni and Margaritès in Mylopotamos have been murdered by the Turks in their passage through the above-mentioned villages.

At Telesos the troops stayed two days. Omer Pasha has not visited this city at all. During the stay of the troops at Telesos great damage was done to landed property near the village; fruit trees even have been cut down.

From that village the troops proceeded to Spilia, a place one hour distant from this city, and there the troops remained eight days, causing great damage to landed property. During his stay at this place Omer Pasha ordered the six battalions stationed at Tymbaki of Messara, and also the three stationed at St. Myron of Malevisi, to join him at Spilia.

On the 1st instant his Highness with all the troops and irregulars marched against the insurgents assembled at Lasithe. No news concerning this action has been as yet received here.

Having, however, withdrawn the above-mentioned troops from the large districts of Messara and Malevisi, his Highness has abandoned the said districts to the insurgents, who immediately took possession of them, going through without any impediment, being now able to stay not on the mountains but in the villages, and to communicate with the other districts occupied by the insurgents, viz., Amari, St. Vassilios, Mylopotamos, and the other eastern districts, and I am afraid that this measure of withdrawing, without producing any advantage, has caused a bad effect, as the other forces his Highness has, besides the above-mentioned nine battalions, are very strong, and would therefore produce the same result without even the aid of the nine battalions as with it.

Being, however, abandoned to the insurgents, the districts of Temenos and Malevisi and the large and important district of Messara, those who still remained there have been obliged to abandon their crops of grain, silk, &c., and have lost them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 181.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, June 16, 1867.*

SINCE I had the honour to address to your Lordship my despatch of the 7th instant, I have been in frequent communication with Fuad Pasha, on the subject of the advice given by Her Majesty's Government to the Porte, to anticipate, by making of its own accord liberal concessions to Crete, a demand from the European Powers that a Commission of Inquiry be sent to the island. I have also had a long and serious conversation with the Grand Vizier, Aali Pasha, on the same subject.

I have found both Fuad Pasha and Aali Pasha very grateful for the interest manifested by Her Majesty's Government in the welfare of the Empire. I have stated distinctly to both that Her Majesty's Government have no desire to dictate to the Porte, and that they decline to assume any responsibility whether the Porte acts at once on the recommendation they have made, or defers to do so, or rejects the recommendation altogether. I have also made it plain that the Porte must not expect that under any circumstances Her Majesty's Government will support the Sultan against his own subjects or depart from their present neutral attitude. While perfectly comprehending the views and intentions of Her Majesty's Government as thus explained to them, the two Ottoman Ministers have expressed, and I believe have really felt, sincere gratitude for the friendship which has dictated the endeavours made by Her Majesty's Government to point out to the Porte a means of escape from the dangers impending over it.

No. 182.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 16, 1867.*

I HAD on the 10th instant the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd instant, and on the same day I made its contents known to Fuad Pasha. I informed his Highness that your Lordship had desired me to recommend the Porte to accede to a proposal which was about to be made to it by France, that a Commission of Inquiry should be sent to Crete. This recommendation was, I said, made by Her Majesty's Government on the understanding that the following limitations should be maintained, namely, that the "Sultan should by a Decree declare the formation of the Commission of Inquiry;" that "the Representatives of the different Powers should on the invitation of the Sultan designate respectively the Delegates who should accompany the Turkish Commissioners;" that "the question to be raised was not that of the cession of the island, but that the object was to ascertain the real wants of the Cretans with a view to administrative reforms;" finally, "that no demand for a suspension of hostilities should be made in a sense hostile to the interests of the Porte."

Fuad Pasha said that no proposal for a Commission of Inquiry had been yet made to the Porte by the Government of France or any other Government. He added that if such a proposal should, in fact, be made, the Porte in determining the answer to be made to it would give very great weight to the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government.

On my way home from Fuad Pasha's house I called upon M. Bourée, the French Ambassador, and made him acquainted with the contents of your Lordship's despatch, and with the communication founded upon it, which I had just made to the Ottoman Minister for Foreign Affairs.

M. Bourée told me that in consequence of some differences of opinion among the Representatives of the several Powers who were to join in the proposal, it had been necessary for him to refer to Paris by telegraph for fresh instructions. He expected to receive those instructions without delay, and they would determine the form in which the proposal would be made.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 183.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 16, 1867.*

M. BOUREE, the French Ambassador, told me yesterday that the proposal to send a Commission of Inquiry to Crete had been made that morning to the Porte in the name of the Governments of France, Russia, Prussia, and Italy. He said that he had received the day before the instructions from Paris for which he had been waiting, and that he had in pursuance of them invited the Representatives of Austria, Italy, Prussia, and Russia, each to deliver to the Porte a copy of an instruction dated the 17th May. He had further stated to his colleagues that he was instructed to accompany the delivery of the copy of the instruction with certain verbal explanations. The Austrian Internuncio had, M. Bourée went on to say, been of opinion that the instruction of the 17th May, even if accompanied by the proposed verbal explanations, was not consistent with the conditions under which Austria had consented to join in inviting the Porte to send a Mixed Commission to Crete, and had consequently declared that he must refer to Vienna for fresh orders. The other Representatives had agreed to join M. Bourée at once, and accordingly the first dragomans of the French and Russian Embassies and of the Italian and Prussian Legations had that morning waited together upon Fuad Pasha. The French dragoman had read the instruction of the 17th May to his Highness and had stated verbally the explanations with which the instruction from Paris required that the communication should be accompanied. Copies of the instructions had moreover been put by the dragomans into the hand of his Highness, who had said that he must consult his colleagues and take the orders of the Sultan before making any answer to the communication.

The instruction which was communicated by the dragomans to Fuad Pasha, and to which the date of the 17th May has been affixed, appears to be identical or nearly so with the draft dated April, which was communicated to your Lordship by the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne on the 13th May, and of which a copy was sent to me with your Lordship's despatch of the 13th May.

The explanations given verbally by the French dragoman were, I believe, in substance similar to those given to your Lordship by the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne on the 23rd May, in the conversation of which an account is given in your Lordship's despatch to Earl Cowley of the same day. They have been, if I remember correctly what M. Bourée said, embodied in a despatch from the Marquis de Moustier to the French Ambassador at Vienna, dated the 18th May, and in a despatch from M. de Moustier to M. Bourée himself, dated the 24th May.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 184.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, June 17, 1867.*

SINCE I addressed to your Lordship my despatch of yesterday, I have been informed by Fuad Pasha that when the other three dragomans delivered to his Highness copies of the instructions of the 17th May respecting Crete, the Russian dragoman excused himself from doing so, on the ground that an additional copy would be superfluous.

I have, moreover, been informed by Fuad Pasha, that the Austrian Internuncio called upon him in person yesterday, and put into his hand a copy of an instruction respecting Crete from the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs. It bears the date of the 28th May, and the following passage appears in it:—"Il s'agirait donc de nommer à cet effet une Commission d'Enquête. Il appartiendrait au Sultan de provoquer par un Decret la formation de cette Commission. Les Puissances auraient à désigner de leur côté, sur l'invitation de la Porte, les Délégués chargés d'accompagner les Commissaires Turcs et d'assurer par leur présence la sincérité de l'enquête. Telle est la combinaison qui paraît la plus propre à concilier les divers intérêts engagés dans cette question, et c'est dans ces termes que le Gouvernement Impérial a été engagé à s'associer à une demande collective."*

* "The question would then be to name with this object a Commission of Inquiry. It would be for the Sultan to invite by a Decree the formation of this Commission. The Powers would, on their side, at the Porte's invitation, have to appoint Delegates charged to accompany the Turkish Commissioners, and to testify by their presence the sincerity of the inquiry. This combination seems most suitable to conciliate the various interests engaged in this question, and it is in these terms that the Imperial Government has been invited to join in a collective inquiry."

The date and the insertion of this passage would seem to constitute the only differences between this Austrian instruction and those communicated to Fuad Pasha by the dragomans of the other three Powers. In all other respects the Austrian instruction is at any rate identical with the draft communicated to your Lordship by the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne on the 13th of last month.

No. 185.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 25.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 17, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a paper containing the substance of a report made by Omer Pasha to the Porte, which states that he obtained on the 3rd instant an important advantage over the insurgents in the district of Lasithe.

This paper was sent to me from the Porte on the day before yesterday, and I inserted an abridgment of it in a telegram which I had the honour to address to your Lordship on that day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 185.

Substance of Report from Omer Pasha to the Porte.

SON Altesse Omer Pacha a marché, le 3 Juin, sur le district de Lasithe, situé dans une vallée fermée de toutes parts par des montagnes escarpées et presqu'inaccessibles et n'ayant d'autre issue qu'un étroit défilé. Les troupes Impériales sont parvenues à pénétrer simultanément dans cette vallée par le défilé et par l'une des hauteurs qui la défendent. Elles ont attaqué les insurgés dans leurs retranchements d'Aya Fotia, de Peschero, et d'Afédi Cristo, et les ont délogés de toutes ces positions où ils avaient concentré leurs forces. Dans les différends combats qui ont été livrés durant cette journée, les insurgés ont eu plus de 200 morts, et environ 500 hommes mis hors de combat. Du côté des troupes Impériales il y a eu 10 morts et une soixantaine de blessés.

(Translation.)

HIS Highness Omer Pasha marched, on the 3rd of June, on the district of Lasithe, which is situated in a valley shut in on every side by steep and almost inaccessible mountains, and having no outlet but by a narrow defile. The Imperial troops succeeded in penetrating simultaneously into this valley by the defile and by one of the heights which guard it. They attacked the insurgents in their entrenchments at Aya Fotia, at Peschero, and Afédi Cristo, and dislodged them from all those positions where they had concentrated their forces. In the various contests which were fought during this march, the insurgents lost more than 200 killed and about 500 placed *hors de combat*. On the side of the Imperial troops there were 10 killed and 60 wounded.

No. 186.

Memorandum communicated by Baron Brunnow, June 26, 1867.

DEUX mois se sont écoulés depuis que l'Ambassadeur de Russie a eu l'honneur de communiquer à Lord Stanley les réflexions contenues dans le Memorandum du $\frac{14}{26}$ Avril, sur l'état des affaires de Candie.

Depuis cette époque la situation s'est aggravée. Omer Pacha n'a su rétablir la tranquillité ni par la force des armes, ni par un sage système de conciliation. Loin de là, il a rendu la résistance plus opiniâtre, à mesure qu'il a vainement essayé de la vaincre par des actes de cruauté et de barbarie.

En présence de ces faits, il faut bien le reconnaître, les griefs des habitants de Candie réclament une satisfaction prompte et décisive.

Il eût été à désirer qu'elle fut le résultat d'un accord général. Dans ce but on a

suggéré l'idée d'une commission d'enquête, destinée à éclairer les Cabinets sur les besoins et sur les vœux des populations.

Jusqu'ici, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne s'est pas cru appelé à prendre à cette combinaison une part active. Cependant, dans sa propre pensée, l'abstention qu'il s'impose ne saurait devenir un motif qui empêchât les autres Puissances de suivre l'impulsion du sentiment d'humanité dont elles s'inspirent.

A ce point de vue, l'affaire de Candie demeure à l'état d'une question ouverte. Chaque Cabinet prend conseil de sa propre conscience. L'action morale de l'un ne devient pas pour les autres une cause de discorde ni de méfiance.

En effet, de quoi s'agit-il avant tout? Il importe d'assurer d'abord un moyen de salut aux femmes, aux vieillards, aux enfants qui cherchent à se soustraire, par la fuite, à des actes de fanatisme et de vengeance dont ils seraient victimes si nul ne venait en aide à leur détresse. Certes, ils n'invoqueront pas en vain la protection due au malheur. Ils trouveront un asile sous le pavillon des Puissances Chrétiennes. Si cette mesure de sauvetage n'a pas obtenu jusqu'ici le concours du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, il n'en reconnaîtra pas moins l'inviolabilité d'un droit d'asile, dont l'Angleterre, quand elle le veut, sait donner l'exemple.

Sous l'influence du même sentiment d'humanité, l'Europe ne restera pas témoin impassible du système d'extermination dont Omer Pacha menace de frapper une population qu'il est également incapable de conquérir et de pacifier. S'il espérait la réduire par la famine, le monde Chrétien ne le tolererait point.

En conclusion, précisons la situation telle qu'elle se présente en ce moment.

Parmi les Grandes Puissances, les unes manifestent une sollicitude plus active que les autres pour mettre un terme aux souffrances dont l'Ile de Candie est le théâtre.

La Russie, la France, l'Italie et la Prusse élèvent leur voix à Constantinople d'un commun accord.

L'Autriche, dans une certaine mesure, vient de s'y associer.

L'Angleterre, seule, persiste dans l'intention de n'exercer sur les conseils de la Porte aucune pression morale.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman se sent encouragé par là à trop compter sur l'emploi de la force. Le résultat n'a point justifié l'attente de la Turquie. Ses ressources matérielles s'épuisent par des efforts infructueux. L'espoir d'une pacification s'éloigne, tandis que le danger d'une crise s'avance.

Dans cet état des choses, une politique saine ne devrait-elle pas avertir les Cabinets qu'il serait tems d'ouvrir les voies à une transaction qui deviendrait tout à la fois une œuvre d'humanité et de prévoyance?

En ce qui regarde la Russie, elle ne déviera point de la marche qu'elle a adoptée, de concert avec les Puissances, animées comme elle du désir d'arrêter l'effusion du sang. Le Memorandum du $\frac{14}{26}$ Avril a énoncé cette firme détermination. L'Ambassadeur de Russie se fait un devoir de la constater de nouveau.

Londres, le $\frac{14}{26}$ *Juin,* 1867.

(Translation.)

TWO months have elapsed since the Russian Ambassador had the honour of communicating to Lord Stanley the observations contained in the Memorandum of the $\frac{14}{26}$th April, upon the state of affairs in Candia.

Since that date the situation has become worse. Omer Pasha has been unable to re-establish tranquillity, either by force of arms or by a wise system of conciliation. Far from it, he has rendered resistance the more obstinate, in proportion to his vain efforts to overcome it by acts of cruelty and barbarity.

With these facts before us, it must be acknowledge that the wrongs of the Candiotes call for prompt and decisive satisfaction.

It would have been desirable that this satisfaction should have been the result of a general agreement. With this view was suggested the idea of a Commission of Inquiry, designed to enlighten the Cabinets as to the wants and wishes of the population

Up to this time, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty has not felt itself called upon to take an active part in this combination. However, as it itself admitted, the restraint which it imposes upon itself could be no motive for hindering the other Powers from following the impulse of the sentiment of humanity with which they are inspired.

Looked at in this light, the Candian affair remains an open question. Each Cabinet consults its own conscience. The moral action of one of them does not become a cause of discord or mistrust for the others.

Now, what is the first object in view? We have first to insure a means of safety to the women, old men, and children who endeavour to escape by flight, from the acts of fanaticism and vengeance to which they would fall victims, did no one come to aid them in their distress. Certainly, they will not in vain invoke the protection due to misfortune. They will find a refuge under the flag of Christian Powers. If this measure of rescue has not yet obtained the concurrence of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, it will none the less recognize the inviolability of a right of asylum, of which England, when she will, knows well how to set an example.

Under the influence of the same sentiment of humanity, Europe will not remain an unmoved spectator of the system of extermination with which Omer Pasha threatens to strike a population which he is alike incapable of conquering and pacifying. If he hoped to reduce it by famine, the Christian world would not tolerate it.

In conclusion, let us sum up the actual position of the moment.

Amongst the great Powers, some show a more active solicitude than others to put an end to the sufferings of which the Island of Candia is the theatre.

Russia, France, Italy, and Prussia raise at Constantinople one unanimous cry.

Austria, in a certain degree, has just joined them.

England, alone, persists in the intention of exercising no moral pressure upon the counsels of the Porte.

The Ottoman Government feels therefrom encouraged to count too much on the use of force. The attempt has not justified the expectations of Turkey. Its material resources exhaust themselves by fruitless efforts. The hope of pacification becomes more distant, whilst the danger of a crisis approaches.

In this state of affairs, should not a sound policy warn the Cabinets that it is time to open the way for a transaction which would be at once a work of humanity and of foresight?

With regard to Russia, she will not deviate from the line which she has adopted, in concert with the Powers which are, like her, animated with a desire to put a stop to the shedding of blood. The Memorandum of $\frac{14}{26}$th April has declared this firm determination. The Russian Ambassador feels it his duty to renew this statement.

London, June $\frac{14}{26}$, 1867.

No. 187.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June* 26, 1867.

THE Russian Ambassador put into my hands to-day a Memorandum, of which I inclose a copy,* having for its object to place on record the views of his Government on the Cretan question.

After briefly reviewing the present state of affairs, the steps taken by Austria, France, Italy, Prussia, and Russia at Constantinople, and the disinclination of England to apply any moral pressure on the Porte, whereby it is encouraged in its attempts to suppress the insurrection by force, the Memorandum submits whether the time has not arrived for seeking to bring about an arrangement which would at once promote the interests of humanity and tend to avert future dangers.

Russia, as in April last, is, for her part, ready to act in concert with other Powers who, like her, may desire to put an end to bloodshed.

Baron Brunnow did not invite any expression of opinion on my part in regard to the contents of the Memorandum.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 188.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 26, 1867.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the prudent and able manner in which you have executed the instructions

* No. 186.

conveyed to you on the subject of the advice to be given to the Porte in regard to Crete, as reported in your Excellency's despatch of the 16th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 189.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 26.)

(Extract.) *Paris, June 25, 1867.*

I SAW M. de Moustier for a few moments this morning, and he told me that he had not yet received the Porte's answer to the last communication made by the French Ambassador on the subject of Candia. It was on the road however, and he had been made aware of its purport by telegraph. His Excellency gave me much the same description of it as is given by Lord Lyons to your Lordship in his telegram of the 23rd instant.

M. de Moustier observed, that until he should have read the answer *in extenso*, he could not form an opinion whether, to use his own words, "it was an acceptance intended to be a refusal, or a refusal intended to be an acceptance."

M. de Moustier seemed willing now to await the arrival of the Sultan in Paris, before taking any further steps in regard either to the question of Candia or to reforms in Turkey.

No. 190.

Consul Cumberbatch to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 27.)

My Lord, *Smyrna, June 18, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that on the 13th instant, three Turkish steam transports arrived at this port from Constantinople, and after embarking 2,400 redifs, proceeded for the Island of Candia on the following day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ROBT. WM. CUMBERBATCH.

No. 191.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord, *Athens, June 20, 1867.*

AN English gentleman who has just arrived from Crete, I regret to say confirms the accounts which have so often reached us of the almost starvation of the inhabitants of that island. Even the Mussulman Cretans living in the towns, and many of them getting rations for serving in the army, complain that they have not sufficient food to support them and their families, and in some places have shown great discontent. The insurgents depend to a considerable extent on the supply of biscuits which the "Arcadi" brings them, a supply which may stop at any moment, and she is now indeed at Syra under repair, and has not been able to go to Crete since her narrow escape at Cerigotto. The women and children are suffering very great hardships. They are mostly collected along the coast at points where the "Arcadi" is likely to touch, hoping either that that vessel will bring them to Greece, or at least that they may get a few biscuits.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

No. 192.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 28.)

My Lord, *Athens, June 20, 1867.*

A DESPATCH from Mr. Dickson, dated the 17th instant, will have already reached your Lordship. Mr. Dickson's account of the latest movement of Ottoman troops and their entry into the plain of Lasethe, and also the submission of a few districts, agrees with a report which the Italian Minister here received from the Italian Consul at Canea. The bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee, which is herewith annexed, admits that Omer Pasha has entered Lasethes, but with great loss to himself, and says the news of the insurgents having been dispersed is not confirmed. Omer Pasha, in a communication which he has addressed to the Turkish Minister, claims to have entirely in his possession all the eastern province of the island, and that he has killed a very large number of the insurgents, particularly Hellenes, and that the survivors are dispersed in the mountains.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 192.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee, June $\frac{8}{20}$, 1867.

OMER PACHA reste toujours campé à Castéli de Pédiada. Les communications continuent à être rigoureusement interrompues entre ceux d'Héraclion et les Chrétiens du dehors. C'est pourquoi nous sommes privés de toute nouvelle positive et de tout rapport du district de Lassithion, où des combats très sanglants ont eu lieu. Il résulte de renseignements de source Turque et de diverses lettres que l'armée Ottomane, après avoir subi des pertes incalculables, a pénétré dans le district de Lassithion. Les nôtres, en présence des forces nombreuses de l'ennemi, ont décidé d'abandonner la plaine de Lassithion et de se porter dans les parties montagneuses au nord du district.

Une lettre du 5 Juin d'Héraclion, provenant de source digne de foi, assure que la nouvelle répandue de l'abandon par les insurgés du district de Lassithion est fausse, et que ce bruit a été répandu par Omer Pacha pour produire quelque modification dans l'action diplomatique.

Mais quand même cette nouvelle serait vraie, quand même les insurgés seraient obligés d'abandonner tout le district de Lassithion, l'insurrection n'en serait en rien amoindrie. Dans tous les districts de la Crète les nôtres, pleins de courage et de constance, vont jusqu'au pied des forteresses provoquer les troupes Ottomanes. Le district de Lassithion, quand même il serait accablé par les forces immenses de l'ennemi, se relèvera, comme l'ont fait tous les autres districts, dès qu'Omer Pacha aura retiré ses troupes.

L'Assemblée Crétoise par Décret du 25 Mai a chargé le Gouvernement Provisoire de féliciter Sa Majesté le Roi des Hellènes et son Altesse la Grande Duchesse Olga de leurs heureuses fiançailles, et de faire chanter un *Te Deum* dans tous les districts de l'Ile de Crète. Le Gouvernement Provisoire a en conséquence ordonné par une circulaire de chanter le *Te Deum* dans toute l'île le 5 Juin. Il a en même envoyé ses lettres de félicitation.

Voici le Décret :

"L'Assemblée Générale des Crétois,

"Apprenant avec une joie indicible les heureuses fiançailles de Sa Majesté notre Roi bien aimé Georges I avec son Altesse la Grande Duchesse Olga Constantinowna,

"Décrète :

"Le Gouvernement Provisoire de la Créte adressera ses félicitations à Sa Majesté le bien-aimé Roi des Hellènes Georges I et à son Altesse la Grande Duchesse Olga Constantinowna, et fera chanter un *Te Deum* dans tous les districts de l'île.

"Le présent Décret sera transmis à Sa Majesté le Roi et à son Altesse la Grande Duchesse.

"*District d'Amarion, le 25 Mai, 1867*"

(Suivent les signatures.)

(Translation.)

OMER PASHA is still encamped at Castéli de Pédiada. The communication between those in Heraclion and the Christians outside continue to be rigorously interrupted. That is why we are deprived of all positive information and of any reports from the district of Lassithion, where some very bloody fights have taken place. It would appear, from information of Turkish origin, and from various letters, that the Ottoman army, after suffering incalculable losses, has penetrated into the district of Lassithion. Our men, opposed by large forces of the enemy, determined to abandon the plain of Lassithion, and to retire into the mountainous parts in the north of the district.

A letter of June 5 from Heraclion, received from a trustworthy source, assures us that the report which is circulated of the abandonment of the district of Lassithion by the insurgents is false, and that that rumour was spread abroad by Omer Pasha, in order to produce some modification in diplomatic action.

But even if this news were true, even if the insurgents were obliged to abandon the district of Lassithion, the insurrection would not be in the least discouraged by it. In every district of Crete our men, full of courage and perseverance, march up to the very walls of fortresses to provoke the Ottoman soldiers. The district of Lassithion, even if crushed by the immense forces of the enemy, will again raise itself, as the other districts have done, as soon as Omer Pasha has withdrawn his troops.

The Cretan Assembly, by a Decree of May 25, charged the Provisional Government to congratulate His Majesty the King of the Hellenes and Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess Olga on their happy betrothal, and to cause the *Te Deum* to be sung in every district of the Island of Crete. The Provisional Government consequently, by a circular, ordered the *Te Deum* to be sung on the 5th of June throughout the island; at the same time it sent its letters of congratulation.

Here is the Decree:

"The General Assembly of the Cretans,

"Learning with inexpressible joy the happy betrothal of His Majesty, our well-beloved King George I, to Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess Olga Constantinowna,

"Resolves that:

"The Provisional Government of Crete address its congratulations to His Majesty the well-beloved King George I of Greece, and to Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess Olga Constantinowna, and cause the *Te Deum* to be sung in every district of the island.

"This Decree shall be transmitted to His Majesty the King and to Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess.

"*District of Amarion, May* 25, 1867.

(Follow signatures.)

No. 193.

Earl Cowley to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 29.)

(Extract.) *Paris, June* 28, 1867.

I HAD yesterday and the day before some further conversation with M. de Moustier on the affairs of Candia.

I mentioned to his Excellency that I gathered from Lord Lyons' reports that the Porte was disposed to consent to the inquiry proposed by certain of the Powers if the foreign bands, which infested the island, were previously removed, and I asked his Excellency whether some steps might not be taken to meet the not unreasonable pretensions of the Porte. His Excellency asked how it was to be done except by the employment of coercive measures, which was out of the question. I replied that a serious remonstrance with the Greek Government would in all probability effect the desired object. M. de Moustier said that Russia would never consent to join in such a remonstrance, and without her it would have no chance of success. His Excellency went on to observe that the condition imposed by the Porte was simply to obtain by foreign means what it could not effect by its own. Let the Porte grant the inquiry without troubling itself about the insurrection, which would then cease of itself.

I asked M. de Moustier how he could expect that a Government which had any respect for itself could submit to such humiliation. Some attention should be paid to the position of the Sultan, who was really only defending his own rights; and yet when he endeavoured to meet the wishes of the Powers who had addressed themselves to him, and who were, after all, infringing upon those rights, no consideration was shown for him, nor even an attempt made to save his dignity.

No. 194.

Lord Stanley to Earl Cowley.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June* 29, 1867.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 28th instant, and I have to express to you my entire approval of the language held by you to M. de Moustier, as therein reported, on the question of Candia.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 195.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June* 17, 1867.

WHEN I last had the honour of addressing your Lordship, the head-quarters of the Turco-Egyptian force were at Castelli, in Pediada, and the army there assembled did not exceed 18,000 men, including 4,000 Irregulars.

On the 3rd instant Reshid Pasha was despatched with the Bashi-Bazouks to force the Khera Pass leading into the mountain-girt plateau of Lasethe, and on which are situate about sixteen villages, all Christian. Ten thousand Cretans, with some 1,200 Hellenic volunteers, were massed on this plain, and Reshid Pasha found himself and his Irregulars hemmed in on every side; and before he could retreat to Pediada, some hard skirmishing took place. The attack was resumed on the 5th—this time with the aid of eight battalions of Regular troops, and at two different points, Mathea and Krasi; the right attack being directed by Ali Riza Pasha, the left attack by Reshid Pasha. This combined movement was intended to be followed up to the villages of Plati and Lagou. The attempt equally failed, and on the 6th (up to which date fighting was incessant) the troops withdrew to Castelli. At last, on the 12th, Omer Pasha himself, with the main body of his army, assaulted the Convent of Cardiotissa at Khera, after a hard encounter, and has since also carried and set fire to most of the Lasethe villages.

I hope to receive more circumstantial accounts of this last success of the Imperial troops by next post, and from the Vice-Consul at Candia.

The Turkish armour-plated frigates "Osman-Ghazi" and "Sultan Mahmoud" entered Suda Bay on the 13th instant, having conveyed from Constantinople 2,500 Infantry and Admiral Bessim Pasha.

Three more battalions arrived yesterday from Smyrna, and further reinforcements are still expected.

Ismail Pasha, late commanding the Egyptian Contingent, is just dead from a gastric affection.

The town of Candia is at present so overcrowded with inhabitants—there being no less than 30,000 Mussulman and 7,000 Christian refugees—that an outbreak of fever is apprehended.

In consequence of Omer Pasha's success at Lasethe, the districts of Mirabello, Yerapetra, and Rhizokastron are said to have tendered their submission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 196.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June* 19, 1867.

IN continuation of the subject matter of my despatch dated the day before yesterday, the inclosed copy of a letter just received from the Vice-Consul at Candia announces the occupation of Lasethe by the expeditionary force; the destruction of several villages and orchards; and that the insurgents had, on their defeat, fled to the high mountains bordering on Rhizokastron district. The death of Ismail Pasha, late Commander of the Egyptian Contingent, is confirmed. Some Cretan Turks had made a raid into Malevisi District on the 8th instant.

The troops landed at Candia were dispatched from Suda Bay. I may add, that the Valley of Kastamounitza offered a very stubborn resistance to the Turkish columns during their advance into Lasethe.

I further inclose a translation of a letter from the Consular Agent at Retimo, containing a brief account of the state of insurrection in that province during the last week.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 196.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, June* 17, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state that the expedition of Omer Pasha against Lasethe and all the Eastern districts of this island took place on the 1st instant, as I informed you by my despatch of the 3rd instant.

Under the orders of his Highness are Ali (Sarhosh) Pasha, commanding the Imperial regular troops; Ismail Pasha, in command of the Egyptian troops; and Reshid Pasha, commanding the irregulars.

The total number of regulars and irregulars in this province amounts to 18,000 men.

The Chiefs of the insurgents are Demitrakarakos and Caracas.

After some obstinate engagements, the Turkish troops, on the 4th instant, took possession of a few villages of Lasethe, and, on the 12th, of some others.

All these villages have been pillaged, demolished, and burnt by the Turkish troops, and large numbers of fruit trees have been cut down. The inhabitants have taken refuge on the mountains. The real losses on both sides are yet unknown.

Yesterday the corpse of Ismail Pasha, late Commander of the Egyptians, was brought here; it has been embalmed and sent to Egypt. Some state that his Excellency was killed in an engagement, others that he died of a disease. All Christians who were coming here from the various villages to purchase provisions, or on any other business, have been prohibited at the gates by the local authorities, since the 4th instant, entering the town.

Some Turks made an excursion, on the 8th instant, to St. Myron, Daphnes, Vutes, and Calessa, in Malevisi; and having murdered three unarmed Christians and pillaged all moveable property they found, returned the same day to the village Stavrakia, where they are staying.

On the 14th instant a Christian tried to enter this town by the Canea gate, and to escape the attention of the zaptiehs by the confusion of many Turks entering the town at that moment. He was, however, recognized and brought by the zaptiehs to the Municipal Council, which ordered him to go back immediately to his village, though the family of the man in question remains in this town.

This man, however, was so much ill-treated by the Turks, though accompanied by some zaptiehs, while he was going to the Municipal Council and back to the gate, that he was found half-dead outside the Canea Gate, and, at the request of his family, he has been conveyed to the hospital.

On the 7th instant three battalions of Imperial troops, or about 1,500 men, arrived here by sea; and yesterday other four battalions were landed from two frigates.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 196.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, June* $\frac{5}{17}$, 1867.

NOTHING of importance has occurred in this Province since I last wrote, except that the insurgents are continually carrying off the cattle of the Turks. The latter no longer leave this town to drive the insurgents away, there not being troops sufficient to assist them, as these have nearly all been ordered off to Candia. The Cretan Turks are now therefore biding their time to avenge the loss of their cattle upon the peaceable Christians, and thus renew their barbarities.

Various elders of villages having applied to the authorities for protection, a deaf ear is generally returned to their supplications, and witnesses required to be produced. These last, equally with those peaceable inhabitants who have sought protection, are not unfrequently imprisoned, and, on being released after some time, are required to inform the Government whenever any insurgents should appear in their villages. Hence many Christian families are anxious to quit their dwellings, and retire to the mountains, as has already been the case.

At Perivolia, a quarter of an hour's distance from Retimo, is a convent inclosed by dwellings, named St. George, and belonging to St. Monis of Arkadi, which has lately been repaired, and cost originally 100,000 piastres. The troops have destroyed the premises, and put up their flocks and other animals therein. They are even talking of converting the place into a mosque.

I am informed that on the $\frac{27\text{th May}}{9\text{th June}}$ an Italian war-steamer, while passing by Bali, was hailed to by some Christians in distress on shore. These, having been taken on board, were subsequently conveyed away.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 197.

Fuad Pasha to M. Musurus.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley, July 2.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, le 19 Juin*, 1867.

JE viens de vous transmettre ci-joint copie la correspondance que je viens d'échanger avec la Légation Impériale à Athènes, ainsi que des rapports qui me sont parvenus de la part du Commissariat Impérial en Crète relativement à la rencontre qui a eu lieu en dernier lieu entre quelques-uns de nos croiseurs chargés du service de blocus de cette île et le bateau corsaire "l'Arkadi."

Par la lecture de ces pièces votre Excellence pourra se faire une idée exacte des circonstances qui ont accompagné et suivi cette rencontre. Tout nouveau commentaire serait donc superflu pour établir combien encore dans cette circonstance nous sommes en droit de nous plaindre de la conduite suivie par les autorités Helléniques envers nous.

Aussi avons-nous cru devoir soumettre les faits dont il s'agit à l'équitable appréciation des Puissances Protectrices de la Grèce.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Sublime Porte, June 19*, 1867.

I INCLOSE you herewith a copy of the correspondence which I have recently had with the Imperial Legation at Athens, as also of the reports which have reached me from the Imperial Commissariat in Crete, respecting the collision which lately took place between some of our cruizers charged with the blockade of that island and the pirate the "Arkadi."

A perusal of these documents will enable your Excellency to appreciate exactly the circumstances at the time of and subsequent to this collision. Any new comment on my part to prove again how much right we have to complain of the conduct pursued by the Greek authorities towards us on that occasion would be superfluous.

We have also deemed it our duty to submit the facts in question to the just consideration of the protecting Powers of Greece.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 197.

Report of Server Effendi to the Grand Vizier.

(Traduction.)

LE matin du Mercredi, 2 Séfer (5 Juin), le Commandant de la Marine Impériale, Ibrahim Pacha, est venu m'informer que les bâtiments de la Marine Impériale ayant encore une fois rencontré "l'Arkadi," ils lui avaient donné chasse pendant quelque temps, mais que ce contrebandier s'étant réfugié dans le port de Cérigotto, il avait débarqué les 300 volontaires qu'il avait à bord; que les boulets lancés dans cette poursuite par les bâtiments Ottomans contre "l'Arkadi," et qui l'ont atteint, l'avaient tellement endommagé qu'il n'avait pu arriver dans le port de réfuge que penché sur un côté, position dans laquelle il s'y trouvait encore; et enfin que "l'Arkadi" avait lui-même, lorsqu'il était encore dans les eaux de la Crète, tiré sur les bâtiments Ottomans, et que "l'Izeddin" en avait souffert quelques dégats sur un de ses tambours. Ibrahim Pacha a ajouté que dans la pensée que le Gouvernement Impériale ne manquerait pas de réclamer contre cet incident, il lui paraissait convenable et opportun que des démarches protestatives et identiques fussent effectuées de sa part à l'adresse des autorités de Cerigotto, et de la mienne auprès du Consul Hellénique à la Canée, pour que le contrebandier fût jusque-là retenu dans le port en question, et qu'il allait lui-même partir immédiatement sur un bateau spécial pour l'île sur-mentionnée à l'effet de recueillir les renseignements nécessaires sur l'incident.

L'acte auquel "l'Arkadi" a osé se porter lorsqu'il était encore dans les eaux de la Crète constitue évidemment un grief, et motive nos réclamations. L'incident n'étant pas cependant bien éclairci, et afin d'éviter d'entreprendre auprès du Consul précité une démarche sur de simples données, nous nous sommes entendu avec Ibrahim Pacha pour subordonner cette démarche aux informations authentiques que nous aurions à son retour. Ibrahim Pacha étant parti en effet le même jour pour Cérigotto sur un bateau spécial, je viens de recevoir de sa part à l'instant même une lettre contenant des détails circonstanciés sur l'incident, et dont j'envoie ci-joint copie à votre Altesse, avec celle de l'acte de protestation en Grec que son Excellence a cru devoir adresser aux autorités de Cérigotto. J'ai jugé inutile et inopportun de faire aucune démarche auprès du Consul Hellénique, car dans le principe cette démarche devait avoir pour objet de contribuer à faire retenir "l'Arkadi" dans le port de Cérigotto. Or, d'après nos informations, le dit contrebandier a quitté l'île susmentionnée. D'autre part, l'acte remis par Ibrahim Pacha aux autorités de Cérigotto ne faisant que protester uniquement pour les coups de fusil tirés par les habitants de cette île sur "l'Izeddin," qui se présentait pour remplir une mission essentiellement pacifique, ma démarche devenait sans objet.

3 *Séfer*, 1284 (5 *Juin*, 1867).

(Translation.)

THE morning of Wednesday, 2 Sefer (5th June), the Commandant of the Imperial Marine, Ibrahim Pasha, came to inform me that the ships of the Imperial marine having again met the "Arkadi," gave her chase for some time, but that this smuggler had taken refuge in the port of Cerigotto, and had landed the 300 volunteers she had on board; that the shots fired in this chase by the Ottoman vessels at the "Arkadi," which struck her, had so crippled her that she got into the harbour of refuge heeling over on one side, in which position she remained; and finally, that the "Arkadi" had, while still in Cretan waters, fired at the Ottoman ships, and that one of the "Izzeddin's" paddle-boxes had suffered some damage. Ibrahim Pasha added that considering the Imperial Government would be sure to protest against this incident, it seemed to him right and proper that identic remonstrances should be made by him to the authorities of Cerigotto, and by me to the Greek Consul at Canea to cause the smuggler to be detained until then in the port in question, and that he would himself immediately leave in a special vessel for the above-mentioned island to collect the necessary information respecting the event.

The daring act of the "Arkadi" while still in Cretan waters gives evidently cause of complaint, and justifies our representations. The facts connected with the incident not being very clear, in order to avoid making any communication to the aforenamed Consul upon mere reports, we have settled with Ibrahim Pasha to delay taking this step till we are possessed of the authentic information we shall have on his return. Ibrahim Pasha, in fact, having left the same day for Cerigotto in a special vessel, I have just received a letter from him containing circumstantial details of what took place, and of which I inclose a copy to your Highness, as also of the protest in Greek which his Excellency thought it right to address to the authorities of Cerigotto. I thought it useless and

inopportune to make any communication to the Greek Consul, for in principle the object of that communication would tend to the detention of the "Arkadi" in the harbour of Cerigotto. Now according to our information the said smuggler has left the above-mentioned island. As, on the other hand, the protest handed by Ibrahim Pasha to the authorities of Cerigotto only protests against the gun-shots fired by the inhabitants of that island at the "Izzeddin," which vessel came to fulfil an essentially peaceful mission, my communication would have no object.

3 *Séfer*, 1284 (*June 5*, 1867).

Inclosure 2 in No. 197.

Protest addressed by Ibrahim Pasha to the Governor of the Isle of Cerigotto.

(Traduction.)

JE porte à votre connaissance qu'un bateau Hellène corsaire est arrivé dans l'Ile de Crète portant des insurgés; aperçu de "l'Izzedin," bateau de la Marine Impériale chargée du blocus de l'île, aussitôt le dit bateau corsaire a pris la fuite, lançant des coups de canons contre le dit navire de la Marine Impériale, et s'est réfugié dans le port de votre île, où il a été reçu.

"L'Izzedin" s'est présenté alors devant le port, déclarant que le bateau auquel il avait donné la chasse était un bateau corsaire, et que par conséquent il ne devait pas être reçu. Aussitôt les habitants de votre île ont pris les armes en se préparant au combat contre l'équipage de "l'Izzeddin."

De pareils actes étant contraires aux Traités en vigueur entre les deux pays, je viens protester de la part de mon Gouvernement contre vous et contre votre Gouvernement.

Le $\frac{24 \text{ Mai}}{5 \text{ Juin}}$, 1867.

(Translation.)

I BEG to inform you that a Greek piratical vessel arrived at the Island of Crete having insurgents on board; having been perceived by the "Izzedin," a vessel of the Imperial navy, charged with the blockade of the island, the said piratical vessel took to flight, firing at the said vessel of the Imperial navy, and took refuge in the port of your island, where she was received.

The "Izzedin" then appeared before the port, declaring that the vessel she had pursued was a pirate, and consequently ought not to have been admitted. Upon this the inhabitants of your island took up arms, and prepared to show fight to the crew of the "Izzedin."

Such acts being contrary to the Treaties subsisting between the two countries, I come here to lodge a protest on behalf of my Government against you and against your Government.

$\frac{24\text{th May}}{5\text{th June}}$ 1867.

Inclosure 3 in No. 197.

M. Photiades to Fuad Pasha.

Monseigneur, *Légation Impériale Ottomane, Athènes, le 5 Juin*, 1867.

A L'INSTANT même M. Tricoupi m'annonce que le bateau-à-vapeur "Arkadi," poursuivi dans la haute mer par quatre bâtiments de la Marine Impériale, s'est réfugiée dans la baie de Cérigotto, où il serait bombardé par les dits bâtiments; il aurait perdu quelques hommes de son équipage. Cette nouvelle ayant produit une grande agitation dans le public, le Gouvernement Hellénique donna ordre à la frégate "Hellas" de se rendre immédiatement à Cérigotto à l'effet de délivrer et escorter "l'Arkadi" jusqu'au Pirée. Je me refuse à croire, pour le moment, qu'un tel acte d'hostilité fût commis par nos croiseurs dans un port de Grèce, et me réserve de communiquer à votre Altesse tous les détails qui parviendraient à ma connaissance sur cet incident.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) J. PHOTIADES.

(Translation.)

Monseigneur, *Imperial Ottoman Legation, Athens, June 5, 1867.*

I HAVE just learnt from M. Tricoupi that the steamer "Arkadi" being pursued in the high seas by four vessels of the Imperial navy, has taken refuge in the Bay of Cerigotto, where she was bombarded by the said vessels; she appears to have lost some of her crew. This news having produced great public agitation, the Greek Government has ordered the frigate "Hellas" to be immediately despatched to Cerigotto to rescue the "Arkadi," and to convey her to the Piræus.

I cannot, on the spur of the moment, believe that such an act of hostility has been committed by our cruizers in a port of Greece; and I shall not fail to communicate to your Highness all the details which reach me respecting this affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. PHOTIADES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 197.

Ibrahim Pasha to Server Effendi.

(Traduction.) *Le* $\frac{25 \text{ Mai}}{6 \text{ Juin}}$, 1867.

"L'IZZEDDIN" ayant rencontré "l'Arkadi" à proximité du port de Canée à une distance d'un mille du rivage de la Crète, dans la ligne du blocus, et le "Thalia," l'ayant également aperçu, ont commencé à lui donner la chasse, accompagnés des frégates "l'Ertogrone" et le "Medjidié" qui se trouvaient non loin. Mais ces derniers bâtiments, n'ayant pas une marche rapide, ont été distancés et sont restés en arrière. Seul "l'Izzeddin" a pu serrer de près le contrebandier, et à mesure qu'il s'en approchait, il lui a, à trois milles au large de Cave Carion, lancé quelques boulets et l'a harcelé. "L'Arkadi," quoiqu'il n'eût pas encore franchi la mer territoriale bloquée, a riposté et tiré des coups de canons. Un de ses boulets a endommagé le tambour, sa poutre de bord, et en a percé les cabines d'avant; un autre boulet a traversé "l'Izzeddin" de part en part en brisant les bords du pont. "L'Arkadi" a tiré ainsi plus de soixante boulets et bombes sur le bâtiment Impérial, qui malgré cela s'en approchant de plus en plus était près de le capturer, quand "l'Arkadi," qui poursuivi de la sorte était arrivé près de l'île de Cérigotto, voisine de la Crète et distante de dix-huit milles, s'y est retugiée. "L'Izzeddin" voulant entrer également dans le susdit port pour y formuler une protestation contre l'acte du contrebandier, qui, se trouvant dans les eaux du blocus, lui avait lancé des boulets et des bombes, il fut assailli par des coups de fusil partant tant du rivage que des fortifications, et de derrière les rochers. Le Commandant a donc adressé aux autorités de Cérigotto, qui d'ailleurs n'ont pas voulu l'accepter, une protestation contre ce procédé inqualifiable. Ces faits ayant en conséquence été immédiatement portés à ma connaissance par le steamer Impérial "l'Atoriel," je me suis hier, Mercredi, embarqué aussitôt sur le "Cheffer," et me suis rendu à Cérigotto, où les renseignements que j'ai recueillis ont en tous points confirmé l'exactitude du récit qui venait de m'être rapporté. J'ai alors adressé une protestation dont ci-joint copie aux autorités de l'île pour réclamer contre l'acte du contrebandier "l'Arkadi," qui avait tiré dans les eaux du blocus sur des navires Ottomans et les avait endommagé; contre l'accueil qu'il avait trouvé et le refuge qui lui avait été donné dans le port de Cérigotto, faisant partie du territoire Hellénique, sans le moindre égard pour les droits du Gouvernement Impérial, et cela lorsque les deux Etats entretiennent des relations amicales; et enfin contre les coups de fusil qui, après la réception du contrebandier, ont été tirés sur les bâtiments de la Marine Impériale.

Ayant remis cet acte à qui de droit je suis retourné en Crète.

(Translation.)

$\frac{\text{May } 25}{\text{June } 6}$, 1867.

THE "Izzedin" having met the "Arkadi" near the port of Canea, at a distance of a mile from the shore of Crete, within the line of blockade, and the "Thalia" having also seen her, they gave her chase, accompanied by the frigates "Ertogrone" and "Medjidié," which were not far off from them. But these latter vessels not being so fast, were distanced and left behind. The "Izzedin" alone succeeded in pressing the smuggler: and as she gained on her, she fired some shots at her about three miles off Cape Carion, and provoked her. The "Arkadi," although she had not yet left the blockaded waters, returned her fire. One of her shots damaged the paddle-box, her side beams, and went

through her fore cabins. Another of her shots went clean through the "Izzedin," from broadside to broadside, smashing the deck timbers. The "Arkadi" fired thus more than sixty shot and shell at the Imperial vessel, which still gained on her, and she was on the point of capturing her, when the "Arkadi," thus pursued, having got close to the Island of Cerigotto, about eighteen miles distant from Crete, took refuge there. The "Izzedin," wishing also to enter into the above-mentioned port to lodge a protest against the act of this smuggler, which, being in blockaded waters, had fired shot and shell at her, was attacked by gun-shots from the beach and from the fortifications, and from behind the rocks. The Commandant then addressed to the authorities of Cerigotto a protest against this unjustifiable proceeding, which, however, was not accepted.

These facts having been consequently immediately reported to me by the Imperial steamer "Atoriel," I embarked yesterday, Wednesday, on board the "Cheffer," and went to Cerigotto, where the information that I obtained confirmed on every point the truth of the story which had been reported to me. I then addressed the protest, of which a copy is inclosed, to the authorities of the island, appealing against the act of the smuggler "Arkadi," which vessel had, while in blockaded waters, fired on and damaged the Ottoman vessels; against the reception she had met with, and the shelter given her in the harbour of Cerigotto, which forms part of the Greek territory, without the least regard for the rights of the Imperial Government, and this while the two States keep up friendly relations; and, finally, against the gun-shots fired at the vessels of the Imperial navy after the reception of the smuggler.

Having sent this to the proper quarter, I returned to Crete.

No. 198.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 2.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 23, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch addressed by Fuad Pasha on the 20th instant to the Representatives of the Porte at Vienna, Paris, Florence, Berlin, and St. Petersburgh. The despatch conveys the answer of the Ottoman Government to the communication respecting the affairs of Crete made to Fuad Pasha by the French, Italian, Prussian, and Russian Dragomans on the 15th instant, as well as to that made by the Austrian Internuncio on the 16th instant.

Your Lordship is aware that the communication made on the part of France, Italy, Prussia and Russia took the form of identic instructions to the Representatives of those Powers from their respective Governments, which bore the date of the 17th May.

No mention of a Commission of Inquiry is made in these identic instructions, but in delivering the copy, on the part of France, the French Dragoman stated verbally that the measure recommended for the purpose of obtaining information on the real state of things in Crete was the appointment of a Commission of Inquiry, to be established by a Decree of the Sultan, and to be accompanied by delegates named by the Powers on the invitation of the Porte. A statement to the same effect was inserted in the body of the instruction, of which a copy was on the following day given in by the Representative of Austria. No allusion appears to have been made either verbally or in writing to the two further limitations laid down in your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd instant, namely, "that the question to be raised was not that of the cession of the island, but that the object was to ascertain the real wants of the Cretans, with a view to administrative reforms," and "that no demand for a suspension of hostilities would be made in a sense hostile to the interests of the Porte."

I had a week ago the honour to report to your Lordship that on the same day on which I received the despatch in question, I informed Fuad Pasha that your Lordship had desired me to recommend the Porte to accede to a proposal about to be made to it by France, that a Commission of Inquiry should be sent to Crete. Five days afterwards the communication on the part of France, Italy, Prussia, and Russia was made to Fuad Pasha, and I then recommended his Highness to make his answer approach as nearly as possible to a simple agreement to a Commission of Inquiry on the terms stated by your Lordship.

His Highness, with whom I had more than one conversation on the subject, assured me that he attached the greatest importance to your Lordship's recommendation, and that he was most anxious to avoid giving offence to the other Powers. Still, he observed, neither he nor his colleagues could divest themselves of the fear that the Commission of Inquiry was proposed by some of the Powers simply as a step towards separating Crete

from the Empire. The Russian Ambassador openly avowed that the object of Russia was to make Crete over to Greece. No definite assurances to the contrary were made by other Powers. It would be fatal to the reputation of himself and his colleagues that the loss of Crete should be the consequence of a step to which they were consenting parties. It would be less injurious to the Empire and to themselves that Crete should be torn from them by violence. They would resist this to the uttermost, but it would be less dangerous and less dishonourable to yield to superior force than to participate in measures leading to their own ruin.

I was not insensible to the force of these arguments, but I thought, nevertheless, that the really prudent course for the Porte would be to agree to a Commission with the limitations laid down by your Lordship, and I pressed this advice upon Fuad Pasha.

My advice has been by no means exactly followed, but it may perhaps have had some influence upon the answer made to the Powers. Your Lordship will see that although Fuad Pasha argues at some length against the proposed Commission, and takes pains to show that it would be neither useful nor necessary for the professed objects, he does say at last that the Ottoman Goverment will not hesitate to agree to a new inquiry, of which the form and the object shall be determined by the Porte itself, and of which neither the form nor the object shall overpass the natural limits of the sovereignty of the Sultan. He adds, however, that a necessary preliminary to a free and fair inquiry will be the expulsion, by some means or other, of the foreign invaders of the island.

The instruction from the several Governments to which the date of the 17th May has been affixed, is identical with the draft, dated April, which was communicated to your Lordship by the Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne on the 13th May.

The instruction, of which a copy has been given to the Porte by the Austrian Internuncio, differs from it only in the date and the insertion of the passage quoted in my despatch of the 17th instant. The date affixed to the copy delivered by the Internuncio was May 28th; it has, however, I understand, been since altered, at his request, to the 15th June.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 198.

Despatch addressed by Fuad Pasha to the Turkish Representatives at Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Florence, and St. Petersburgh.

Constantinople, le 20 Juin, 1867.

MM. LES Représentants de France, d'Italie, de Prusse, et Russie, viennent de me faire donner lecture et de me laisser copie d'une dépêche identique qu'ils ont reçue de la part de leurs Gouvernements respectifs au sujet des affaires de Crète.

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-jointe une copie de cette dépêche.

M. l'Internonce d'Autriche m'a communiqué la même pièce avec une variante que vous trouverez marquée, et qui se trouve conforme à ce que M. l'Ambassadeur de France m'a fait dire verbalement.

Ainsi que vous le releverez du contenu de cette pièce, on nous reproche de n'avoir pas bien compris le véritable objet des conseils qu'on nous avait donnés lors de la première démarche, et de nous être engagés dans le champ des conjectures sur les conséquences éventuelles qu'elle pouvait avoir, et que nous aurions porté ainsi le débat sur des questions qui n'étaient pas posées en éludant celle qui était seule en discussion.

Nous n'avons pas besoin de protester ici de notre égard très-profond pour les conseils qui nous viennent de la part des Grandes Puissances.

La Sublime Porte connait leurs sentiments de bienveillance à son égard, et elle ne saurait douter de la sincérité de ces sentiments ni de la justice qui les caractérise. C'est en conséquence de cette confiance que nous venons aujourd'hui expliquer franchement le motif impérieux qui nous a déterminé à nous exprimer relativement à la première démarche de la manière dont on parle dans la dépêche que j'ai mentionnée plus haut. Et d'abord qu'il nous soit permis de faire observer que le premier et le plus important des devoirs d'un Gouvernement c'est de veiller à sa propre conservation, et qu'il y manquerait complètement s'il entrait sans le moindre examen, sans connaissance de cause et sans calculer les conséquences qui peuvent en résulter, dans des éventualités dont le résultat pouvait porter une atteinte mortelle au principe de son existence: le Gouvernement du Sultan ne pouvait et ne devait donc pas manquer à un devoir aussi sacré qu'impérieux. C'est pour y obéir que j'ai dû mettre en avant les considérations contenues dans ma

dépêche du 10 Avril dernier, en réponse aux précédentes propositions des cinq Grandes Puissances.

La nature de nos observations et l'esprit de haute équité des Cabinets nous faisaient espérer qu'elles seraient prises en sérieuse considération. Mais je regrette de dire qu'il en a été autrement, et la dernière communication nous laisse, j'ose l'affirmer, dans les mêmes ténèbres que la première sur le résultat qu'on se propose d'atteindre.

Ainsi, la situation est toujours la même, et, si d'un côté la Sublime Porte ne veut pas entrer dans de longs détails pour encourir de nouveaux reproches, elle ne saurait de l'autre côté s'empêcher de faire tout son possible pour préciser ses vues dans cette question.

On nous demande par cette nouvelle démarche, ainsi que par la précédente, de provoquer la consultation des habitants de Crète tant sur les causes des évènements regrettables qui se sont passés dans cette île que sur les moyens d'y mettre un terme. Mais le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan, animé comme toujours des sentiments de sollicitude paternelle à l'égard de toutes les populations de l'Empire, s'était déjà appliqué à rechercher les causes des plaintes des Crétois et les moyens de leur procurer le bien-être en les dotant, s'il y a lieu, d'une meilleure administration. Il n'avait pas même hésité à consulter le vœu de la population de l'île dans les limites de ses droits et dans les formes requises.

Je dois ajouter que, s'il agissait seulement et sans aucun autre but de rechercher les moyens propres à assurer à la Crète une administration compatible avec ses droits et capable de satisfaire aux besoins légitimes des habitants, la Sublime Porte n'aurait point hésité un seul instant à s'y prêter. Mais est-ce là réellement le but auquel on veut arriver? Ne voyons-nous pas malheureusement un pays voisin et en paix avec nous se livrer à des actes qu'on peut dire sans exemple dans les annales des peuples dans l'intention publiquement avouée d'assouvir son ambition?

Le monde entier connait déjà dans quel but et en vue de quel résultat l'insurrection de Candie a été préparée, et quels sont les efforts incessants que le même pays voisin et en paix déploie pour arriver à ses fins. Or, dans cette situation y aurait-il moyen de faire autre chose que ce que le Gouvernement Impérial s'est vu et se voit dans la nécessité de faire?

En examinant d'une manière approfondie la situation de l'île on y trouve deux idées dominantes; celle qui doit sa naissance aux menées ourdies par le pays en question, menées suffisamment prouvées par la présence même des volontaires Hellènes et par les moyens séditieux qu'ils emploient.

On sait que ce sont ses mêmes étrangers qui ont provoqué les évènements malheureux dont l'île a été le théâtre, et qui cherchent à prolonger cet état de choses par tous les moyens imaginables; que ce sont encore eux qui paralysent les efforts de la Sublime Porte pour le rétablissement de la tranquillité dans l'île. Y a-t-il nécessité de le constater sur les lieux?

La seconde idée, qui est celle des habitants de Candie, consiste de vivre en paix sous l'administration modifiée conformément aux vœux exprimés au nom de ces habitants avant que l'insurrection ne vint à éclater.

Or, la Sublime Porte a décidé que tout en examinant ces demandes, il soit procédé aux mesures propres à assurer le bien-être de la population Chrétienne de l'île par toutes les améliorations susceptibles d'amener ce résultat et en donnant entre autre une part importante aux éléments Chrétiens dans l'administration de l'île. Partant de ce point de vue nous nous permettons de dire que la Sublime Porte ne voit aucune nécessité de se livrer sur les lieux à une nouvelle consultation du vœu de la population. A notre avis on arriverait plus facilement à se former une idée juste sur les vœux réels des populations et les intentions paternelles du Gouvernement Impérial en passant en revue les demandes présentées précédemment par les Crétois et les mesures qui seront prises en conséquence.

Quoiqu'il en soit le Gouvernement du Sultan, s'appuyant sur son droit imprescriptible et en se fiant à la justice des Puissances, qui ne demanderont, nous en sommes convaincus, rien qui puisse porter atteinte aux principes des stipulations dont elles sont les consignataires, n'hésitera pas à admettre une nouvelle enquête dont la forme et le but devrait être déterminés par lui-même et la forme à donner et le but à désigner ne devraient pas dépasser les limites naturelles de ses droits de souveraineté. Cependant pour que cette enquête soit faite, comme on le veut, librement et sincèrement, il faut que la population soit dégagée de toute pression par l'expulsion, d'une manière ou d'une autre, de ces envahisseurs étrangers qui veulent dicter la loi au pays.

La Sublime Porte, dont on se plait à reconnaître les sentiments d'humanité et de modération, regrette infiniment l'effusion du sang, qu'elle tâche d'éviter autant qu'elle peut. Mais la cause et la continuation de ce fait affligeant résident dans l'espoir

chimérique dont se berce toujours le pays voisin ci-dessus mentionné, en envoyant continuellement des bandes qui s'organisent sous les yeux du Gouvernement de ce même pays. Mais le jour où cette espérance lui sera ôtée par la conviction que les Puissances sont décidées à faire respecter les Traités qui se trouvent revêtus de leurs signatures, ce jour-là les armes tomberont des mains de ceux contre lesquels nous sommes obligés de combattre et on verra que le Gouvernement du Sultan n'est ni dans le cas ni dans l'intention de verser le sang de ses propres enfants.

Je suis persuadé, M. , que ces réflexions, que nous soumettons avec la plus grande confiance au jugement éclairé du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté , seront prises en sérieuse considération. C'est dans cette conviction que je vous autorise à laisser copie de cette dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

Veuillez, &c.

(Translation.)

Constantinople, June 20, 1867.

THE Representatives of France, Italy, Prussia, and Russia have just caused to be read to me, and have left me a copy of, the identic despatch which they have received from their respective Governments on the subject of the affairs of Crete.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of that despatch.

The Austrian Internuncio has communicated to me the same document, with a variation which you will find marked, and which is in conformity with what the French Ambassador caused to be said verbally to me.

As you will gather from the contents of this docnment, we are reproached with not having well understood the true object of the counsels which had been given to us at the time of the first step, and with having engaged ourselves in the field of conjecture on the eventual consequences which it might have, and with having thus carried the debate on to questions which were not proposed to us, while eluding that which was alone under discussion.

It is not necessary here for us to declare our very profound consideration for the counsels which are given to us by the Great Powers.

The Sublime Porte knows their sentiments of good will for it, and does not doubt the sincerity of those sentiments, nor the justice which characterizes them. It is in consequence of this confidence that we are going to-day to explain frankly the imperative motive which determined us to express ourselves relative to the first step in the manner spoken of in the despatch above-mentioned. And first, let us be permitted to call attention to the fact, that the first and the most important of the duties of a Government is to be mindful of its own preservation, and that it would fail in this completely if it entered without the least examination, without knowledge of causes, and without calculating the consequences which might result from them, in the eventualities the result of which might strike a mortal blow at the principle of its existence. The Government of the Sultan could not, and ought not therefore to fail in a duty as sacred as it was peremptory. It was to fulfil it that I was forced to put forward the considerations contained in my despatch of the 10th of April last, in answer to the preceding propositions of the five Great Powers.

The nature of your observations, and the high tone of equity of the Cabinets, gave us hope that they would be taken into serious consideration. But I regret to say that it has been otherwise, and the last communication leaves us, I venture to affirm, in the same darkness as the first one with respect to the result which it is proposed to attain.

Thus the situation is still the same; and if, on the one hand, the Sublime Porte will not enter into long details to incur fresh reproaches, on the other, it cannot avoid doing all that is possible to give its views on this question with precision.

We are asked by this new overture, as well as by the former one, to promote a consultation of the inhabitants of Crete, as well on the causes of the lamentable events which have occurred in that island as on the means of putting an end to them. But the Government of His Majesty the Sultan, animated, as always, by sentiments of paternal solicitude towards all the populations of the Empire, had already applied itself to seek for the causes of the complaints of the Cretans, and for means of procuring them happiness, by endowing them, if necessary, with a better administration. It had not even hesitated to consult the wishes of the population of the island, within the limits of its rights and in the requisite form.

I must add, that if the question was merely that of seeking the proper means of assuring to Crete an administration compatible with its rights, and capable of satisfying the legitimate wants of the inhabitants, without any other aim, the Sublime Porte would

not have hesitated for a single instant to lend itself to it. But is this really the end at which it is desired to arrive? Do we not, unfortunately, see a neighbouring country, which is at peace with us, abandoning itself to acts which, we may say, are without example in the annals of nations, with the intention, publicly owned, of satisfying its ambition?

The whole world knows already to what end, and with a view to what result, the insurrection of Candia has been organized, and what are the incessant efforts which the same country, our neighbour, and at peace with us, employs to arrive at its ends. Would there then be in this situation a possibility of doing otherwise than that which the Imperial Government has seen, and now sees, itself under the necessity of doing?

On examining, in a searching manner, the situation of the island, one finds there two dominant ideas: one which owes its existence to the plots brewed by the country in question—plots sufficiently proved by the presence of Hellenic volunteers, and by the seditious means which they employ.

It is known that it is these same strangers who have brought on the unhappy events of which this island has been the theatre, and who seek to prolong this state of things by all imaginable means; that it is, again, they who paralyze the efforts of the Sublime Porte for the re-establishment of tranquillity in the island. Is there any necessity to prove it on the spot?

The second idea, which is that of the inhabitants of Candia, consists in living in peace, under an administration modified conformably to the wishes expressed in the name of those inhabitants before the insurrection broke out.

Now the Sublime Porte has decided that, while examining these demands, steps should be taken calculated to assure the well-being of the Christian population by all the ameliorations likely to lead to this result; among others, by giving an important part in the administration of the island to the Christian element. From this point of view, we are entitled to say that the Sublime Porte sees no reason for a fresh consultation of the wishes of the population on the spot. In our opinion, it would be more easy to form a just idea of the real wishes of the people, and of the paternal intentions of the Imperial Government, by passing in review the demands previously made by the Cretans, and the measures which will be taken in consequence.

However that may be, the Government of the Sultan, supported by its imprescriptible rights, and trusting to the justice of the Powers, who will ask nothing, we are convinced, which could attack the principles of the stipulations of which they are the trustees, will not hesitate to agree to a new inquiry, of which the form and the aim are determined by itself, and of which the form to be given, and the aim to be designed, do not go beyond the natural limits of its right of sovereignty. In order, however, that this inquiry should be made as it is desired, freely and sincerely, it is necessary that the population should be unfettered from all pressure by the expulsion, in some way or other, of those invading strangers, who wish to dictate laws to the country.

The Sublime Porte, whose sentiments of humanity and moderation are generally recognized, regrets infinitely the effusion of blood, which it tries, as much as possible, to avoid. But the cause and the continuation of this afflicting fact consist in the chimerical hope with which the above-mentioned neighbouring country still flatters itself, while continually sending bands which are organized under the eyes of the Government of this same country. But the day on which this hope is taken from it by the conviction that the Powers have decided on causing those Treaties to be respected, to which their signatures are affixed,—on that day the arms will fall from the hands of those against whom we are obliged to combat, and it will be seen that the Government of the Sultan is neither desiring nor intending to spill the blood of their own children.

I am persuaded, M. , that these reflections, which we submit with the greatest confidence to the enlightened judgment of the Government of His Majesty , will be taken into serious consideration. It is under this conviction that I authorize you to leave copy of this despatch with his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

No. 199.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July 2.*)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 23, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of papers relative to the alleged attack made upon the steamer "Arkadi" in Greek waters by Ottoman cruizers.

These papers have been communicated to me by the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 199.

M. Tricoupi to M. Photiades.

M. le Ministre, *Le* $\frac{30 \text{ Mai}}{11 \text{ Juin}}$, 1867.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint traduction d'une lettre adressée à M. le Ministre de l'Intérieur par le Conseil de la Compagnie Hellénique de Navigation à Vapeur.

Ce document, ainsi que le journal du Capitaine Anghélikaras, Commandant du bateau à vapeur "Arcadion" constatent d'une manière évidente que des navires de la Marine Imperiale Ottomane donnèrent la chasse, dans les eaux Grecques, au bateau susmentionné de la Compagnie Hellénique, faisant feu sur lui à coups de canon dans les mêmes eaux; qu'ils le bloquerènt, pendant deux jours, dans le port de l'Ile Grecque de Cérigoto, et qu'ils lancèrent des boulets sur cette île.

Dans la lutte un homme de l'équipage de "l'Arcadion" a été tué et trois autres ont été blessés.

En protestant, au nom du Gouvernement Hellénique, contre une violation aussi flagrante des droits de souveraineté de la Grèce, et en réclamant du Gouvernement Ottoman la réparation qui nous est due, je ne puis me dispenser de me reporter aux assurances que vous avez bien voulu me donner itérativement au sujet des instructions précises et sévères qu'aurait la flotte Ottomane de respecter l'inviolabilité des eaux territoriales de la Grèce, et de se garder de donner au Gouvernement Hellénique des sujets de plainte.

Je ne saurais douter de la sincérité de ces assurances. Aussi j'ai la confiance que la Sublime Porte s'empressera de nous en donner la preuve, en désavouant les coupables et en leur infligeant une punition exemplaire.

Agréez, &c.
(Signé) TRICOUPI.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre, $\frac{\text{May 30}}{\text{June 11}}$, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the inclosed translation of a letter addressed to the Minister of the Interior by the Council of the Hellenic Steam Navigation Company.

This document, as well as the log of Captain Anghélikaras, commander of the steamer "Arkadi," prove evidently that some vessels of the Ottoman Imperial Navy gave chase, in Greek waters, to the above-mentioned boat of the Hellenic Company, firing cannon on her in the same waters; that they surrounded it, during two days, in the port of the Greek Island of Cerigotto, and that they threw shells on to that island.

In the struggle, one of the crew of the "Arkadi" was killed and three others were wounded.

While protesting, in the name of the Hellenic Government, against so flagrant a violation of the rights of sovereignty of Greece, and while claiming from the Ottoman Government the reparation that is due to us, I cannot avoid looking back at the assurances which you were good enough to give me repeatedly on the subject of the precise and severe instructions given to the Ottoman fleet to respect the inviolabity of the territorial waters of Greece, and to be careful to give no cause for complaint to the Hellenic Government.

I cannot doubt the sincerity of these assurances. I therefore rely on the Sublime Porte hastening to give us a proof of it, by disavowing the culprits and by inflicting on them exemplary punishment.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) TRICOUPI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 199.

The Board of the Greek Steam Navigation Company to the Greek Minister of the Interior.

M. le Président, *Hermopolis, Syra, le* $\frac{22 \text{ Mai}}{8 \text{ Juin}}$, 1867.

NOUS avons l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint le journal du Capitaine Anghélikaras, commandant le bateau à vapeur de la Compagnie "l'Arcadion" afin de vous informer que ce bateau pendant son voyage en Candie a non-seulement été poursuivi par l'escadre Turque dans les eaux Turques (à ce qui d'ailleurs est légitime) mais il a été encore attaqué dans les eaux Grecques, tout près de l'Ile de Cérigotto; que par suite des coups de canons tirés par le bateau à vapeur Turc sur "l'Arcadion," au moment où ce paquebôt se trouvait ainsi qu'il est dit plus haut, sur une mer Hellénique, non-seulement le navire a été endommagé, mais un matelot de l'équipage fut tué et deux autres blessés; c'est pourquoi le Commandant se trouvant dans le cas de légitime défense contre cette agression illicite a été forcé de riposter lui aussi par des coups de canon.

Votre Excellence verra, en outre, que "l'Arcadion" a été bloqué pendant plusieurs heures dans le mouillage de Cérigotto et que son équipage a été canonné même sur la terre ferme.

Nous avons l'honneur de porter cès faits à votre connaissance afin que vous vouliez bien faire telles démarches que vous jugeriez convenables à la suite de cette attaque illégale du pavillon et du territoire Helléniques par la flotte Ottomane.

Nous sommes, &c.
Les Directeurs,
(Signé) E. KEHAGA.
E. LADOPOULO.
D. VAFCADAKI.
Le Sécretaire-Général,
A. KASIRAS.

(Translation.)

M le President, *Hermopolis, Syra,* $\frac{\text{May } 22}{\text{June } 8}$, 1867.

WE have the honour to send you inclosed the journal of Captain Anghélikaras, commanding the Company's steamer "Arcadion," in order to inform you that this boat during its voyage off Candia was not only pursued by the Turkish squadron in the Turkish waters (which was legitimate), but was again attacked in Greek waters quite close to the Island of Cerigotto; that in consequence of cannon being fired by the Turkish steamer on the "Arcadion" at a time when this steamer was as above-mentioned on an Hellenic sea, not only the vessel was damaged, but a sailor belonging to the crew was killed, and two others wounded, in consequence of which the Captain, finding himself in a position to defend himself lawfully against this illicit aggression, was forced himself to reply with his guns.

Your Excellency will observe, besides, that the "Arcadion" was blockaded for several hours in the anchorage of Cerigotto, and that its crew was even fired on when on dry land.

We have the honour to convey these facts to your knowledge, in order that you may have the kindness to take such steps as you may think suitable, in consequence of this illegal attack by the Ottoman fleet on the Hellenic flag and territory.

We have, &c.
The Directors,
(Signed) E. KEHAGA.
G. LADOPOULO.
D. VAFCADAKI.
The Secretary-General,
A. KASIRAS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 199.

Fuad Pasha to M. Photiades.

Le 19 Juin, 1867.

J'AI reçu votre dépêche du 12 Juin, relative aux faits qui se sont produits à l'occasion de l'attaque dirigée contre "l'Arcadi," par les navires de la Marine Impériale, et les pièces annexées à la dite dépêche.

Vous trouverez ci-joint les documents qui vous permettront d'apprécier et de faire apprécier par le Gouvernement Hellénique le véritable caractère de cette rencontre, savoir:—

1. Le rapport de Server Effendi, Commissaire Impérial dans l'Ile de Crête.
2. Le rapport d'Ibrahim Pacha, Commandant de la Marine Impériale.
3. La protestation adressée par le même Commandant aux autorités Helléniques de l'Ile de Cerigotto.

Il résulte clairement de ces divers documents, qui ne sont pas contredits sur les points essentiels par l'exposé de M. Tricoupi lui-même, et celui de la Compagnie Hellénique, que "l'Arcadi" a été surpris à un mille des côtes de Crête par les croiseurs de la Marine Impériale qui lui ont donné la chasse et que le vapeur poursuivi a fait usage contre les navires de la Marine Impériale des canons qu'il avait à son bord; qu'il en est résulté un véritable combat qui a commencé dans les eaux de Crête, s'est continué en haute mer et n'a cessé que lorsque "l'Arcadi" est entré dans les eaux Grecques; qu'enfin les réclamations d'Ibrahim Pacha près les autorités Hellènes de Cerigotti dans le port duquel ce bâtiment est entré n'ont eu d'autre effet que de provoquer des actes d'aggression de la part des habitants de l'île contre le croiseur Impérial.

En rapprochant les faits relatifs dans ces divers documents de ceux qui sont exposés tant dans la note de M. Tricoupi que dans la plainte de la Compagnie à laquelle appartient "l'Arcadi," il vous sera facile, M. l'Envoyé, de remettre l'incident dans son véritable jour et d'établir que les rôles ont été audacieusement intervertis. Aussi ne cacherez-vous pas à M. Tricoupi la pénible surprise qu'a causé au Gouvernement Impérial la lecture de sa note du $\frac{30 \text{ Mai}}{11 \text{ Juin}}$, et de l'annexe qui la complète et en aggrave la portée.

"L'Arcadi" est depuis plusieurs mois exclusivement consacré non-seulement à la contrebande de guerre, mais encore au transport des volontaires recrutés au profit de l'insurrection Crétoise. C'est donc un corsaire placé hors du droit des gens et qu'aucune nation ne pourrait couvrir de son pavillon sans faire acte d'hostilité directe contre la Turquie et cela sous une forme jusqu'ici inconnue chez les peuples civilisés.

Le Gouvernement Hellénique ne peut en effet échapper à ce dilemme.

Ou il reconnaît à "l'Arcadi" le droit de naviguer sous pavillon Hellénique pour servir la révolte Crétoise, transporter des bandes d'envahissement, leurs armes et leurs munitions et entrer en lutte ouverte et armée contre les croiseurs Ottomans, et dans ce cas, il est impossible de concilier cette déclaration avec l'état de paix que la Grèce semble vouloir maintenir entre les deux Etats:

Ou au contraire, le Gouvernement Hellénique répudie nettement et sincèrement la responsabilité des actes commis par "l'Arcadi" et de ses entreprises armées contre un Etat voisin; et alors "l'Arcadi" est un corsaire, ou pour mieux dire un pirate qui n'a le droit de se couvrir d'aucun pavillon, qui ne doit être reçu dans aucun port étranger et pour la capture duquel toute autorité régulière est tenue de prêter main-forte à la Marine Impériale.

En tenant ce langage à M. Tricoupi, vous vous hâterez d'ajouter que le Gouvernement Impérial écarte volontiers la première de ces hypothèses, non-seulement comme contraire aux assurances que le Gouvernement Hellénique nous a toujours donné de son respect pour le droit des gens, mais encore comme en opposition avec les termes mêmes des communications qu'il vous a faites au sujet de "l'Arcadi" et des propres aveux de la compagnie à laquelle appartient ce navire qui n'hésite pas à reconnaître que la poursuite dont il a été l'objet de la part des croiseurs Impériaux était légitime. Il ne reste donc que la seconde hypothèse qui condamne également la conduite des autorités de l'Ile de Cérigotto et la protestation de M. Tricoupi.

Vous ne manquerez pas, M. l'Envoyé, de faire remarquer au Ministre Hellène que le cas qui nous occupe diffère essentiellement de celui où un navire étranger essaie, à ses risques et périls, de violer un blocus, dans un simple but de spéculation commerciale. "L'Arcadi" est au service des comités Helléniques qui nous font la guerre sous une forme dont les annales de l'histoire d'aucun pays n'en donne l'exemple. C'est un fait de notoriété Européenne. Il est armé et monté par ces comités; et lorsqu'il est surpris par les croiseurs, il résiste, fait usage de ses canons et combat les forces Impériales de la

même manière que combattent dans l'intérieur de l'île les bandes des volontaires contre les troupes Impériales chargées de les réduire.

En ce qui touche enfin le fait d'avoir continué la poursuite de "l'Arcadi" jusque dans les eaux Grecques, la justification de cette apparente violation des usages internationaux est toute entière dans le caractère du navire poursuivi, tel qu'il vient d'être établi.

Mais en admettant qu'il y ait lieu d'examiner cette question, ce ne serait assurément qu'après que le Gouvernement Hellénique aurait lui-même donné pleine satisfaction à la Sublime Porte pour l'accueil fait dans un port Grec d'un navire corsaire, auquel aucune protection légale ne pouvait être accordée; et enfin pour les actes d'agression commis par les habitants de l'Ile de Cérigotto contre le croiseur Impérial, double fait qui a motivé la protestation très fondée et très légitime d'Ibrahim Pacha.

En repoussant ainsi et très-nettement les réclamations aussi mal fondées qu'inopportunes de M. Tricoupi, je vous prie, M. l'Envoyé, de profiter de cette occasion pour faire ressortir à ses yeux combien il serait facile pour le Gouvernement Hellénique de prévenir de semblables incidents, en faisant défense à tout affréteurs ou compagnies Hellènes de mettre leurs navires au service de l'insurrection Crétoise et en prenant à cet effet des mesures énergiques qui ne seraient en définitive qu'un retour loyal aux principes du droit international.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

June 19, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of June, relative to the facts which have come to light on the occasion of the attack on the "Arkadi" by the vessels of the Imperial navy, and the documents annexed to said despatch.

You will find inclosed the documents which will enable you to understand, and to cause the Hellenic Government to understand, the real character of this encounter, namely:—

1. The Report of Server Effendi, Imperial Commissioner in the Island of Crete.
2. The Report of Ibrahim Pasha, Commander of the Imperial navy.
3. The protest addressed by the same Commander to the Hellenic authorities of the Island of Cerigotto.

It appears clearly from these different documents, which are not contradicted on the essential points by the narrative of M. Tricoupi himself, and by that of the Hellenic Company, that the "Arkadi" was surprised a mile from the shores of Crete by privateers of the Imperial navy, which gave her chase, and that the pursued steamer used against the vessels of the Imperial navy the guns which she had on board; that this resulted in a regular combat, which began in the waters of Crete, was continued on the high seas, and only ceased when the "Arkadi" entered the Greek waters; that, finally, the remonstrances of Ibrahim Pasha with the Hellenic authorities of Cerigotto, into which port this vessel entered, had no other effect than that of provoking acts of aggression on the part of the inhabitants of the island against the Imperial cruizer.

In comparing the facts contained in these different documents with those mentioned in the note of M. Tricoupi as well as in the complaint of the company to whom the "Arkadi" belongs, it will be easy for you, M. l'Envoyé, to put the incident in its true light, and to establish the fact that the parts have been audaciously perverted. You will also not conceal from M. Tricoupi the painful surprise which his note of the $\frac{30\text{th May}}{11\text{th June}}$ and the annex which completes it, and which aggravates its meaning, has caused the Imperial Government.

The "Arkadi" has been for several months exclusively devoted not only to the transport of contraband of war, but also to that of volunteers, recruited to the profit of the Cretan insurrection. She is therefore a pirate, placed beyond the pale of international law, and which no nation could cover with its flag without a direct act of hostility against Turkey, and that under a form hitherto unknown among civilized nations.

The Hellenic Government cannot, in fact, escape from this dilemma.

Either it recognizes in the "Arkadi" the right to navigate under the Hellenic flag to serve the Cretan revolt, to transport the invading bands, their arms and ammunition, and to enter into open and armed warfare against the Ottoman cruizers, and in this case it is impossible to reconcile this declaration with the state of peace which Greece seems to wish to preserve with both States:

Or, on the contrary, the Hellenic Government repudiate distinctly and sincerely the

responsibility of the acts committed by the "Arkadi," and of its armed enterprises against a neighbouring State, and then the "Arkadi" is a corsair, or rather a pirate, which has not the right to cover itself with any flag, which ought to be received in no port, and for the capture of which all regular authorities are bound to give armed aid to the Imperial navy.

While holding this language to M. Tricoupi, you will hasten to add that the Imperial Government willingly lays aside the first of these hypotheses, not only as contrary to the assurances which the Hellenic Government has always given us of its respect for the law of nations, but also as being in opposition even to the terms of the communications which it has made to you on the subject of the "Arkadi," and to the acknowledgments of the Company itself to whom this ship belongs, which does not hesitate to allow that the pursuit of which it was the object on the part of the Imperial cruizers was legitimate. There remains only, therefore, the second hypothesis, which condemns equally the conduct of the authorities of the Island of Cerigotto and the protestation of M. Tricoupi.

You will not fail, M. l'Envoyé, to make the Hellenic Minister remark that the case which occupies us differs essentially from that in which a foreign ship endeavours, at its own risk and peril, to violate a blockade, simply for the purpose of commercial speculation. The "Arkadi" is in the service of the Greek Committees, who make war on us in a manner of which the annals of no country give an example. It is a fact of European notoriety. She is armed and equipped by these Committees; and when surprised by the cruizers she resists, make use of her guns, and resists the Imperial forces in the same manner in which the bands of volunteers combat in the interior of the island the Imperial troops charged with their suppression.

Finally, as to the fact of the pursuit of the "Arkadi" having been continued in the Greek waters, the justification of this apparent violation of international usages lies entirely in the character of the pursued vessel being what has been just established.

But admitting that there was reason for examining this question, this could assuredly only take place after the Hellenic Government had given the Sublime Porte full satisfaction for the reception in a Greek port to a pirate vessel, to whom no legal protection could be granted; and also for the acts of aggression committed by the inhabitants of the Island of Cerigotto against the Imperial cruizer—a twofold act which occasioned the very well-founded, and very legitimate, protest of Ibrahim Pasha.

While repelling very distinctly the equally unfounded and inopportune claim of M. Tricoupi, I beg you, M. l'Envoyé, to profit by this occasion to make it apparent to them how easy it would be to the Hellenic Government to prevent such incidents by forbidding freighters, or Hellenic Companies, to place their vessels at the disposal of the Cretan insurrection, and by taking with this view energetic measures which would be definitively only an honourable return to the principles of international right.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

No. 200.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 3, 1867.*

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings, and the advice given by you to the Porte on the Cretan question, as reported in your despatch of the 23rd ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 201.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord, *Athens, June 27, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, giving an account of the last and successful voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete. She landed 140 volunteers, 340 Roumeliotes, under a Captain

Mitza, besides the greater part of the provisions, arms and ammunition which she had on board.

From accounts which I do not doubt to be authentic, Omer Pasha would appear to have sustained a very heavy loss, stated even at 1,200, in entering Lasethes. The insurgents who merely opposed him in the pass, and who certainly were not more than 2,000 strong, lost between 100 to 150, and finding it impossible to hold the plain, retired on Castello. Omer Pasha, after burning all the villages and destroying the large number of fruit trees on the plain of Lasethes, withdrew all his troops to Candia. The barbarity with which he has accomplished this, is on too good authority to doubt its truth; and it seems very probable that he did burn some Christian families who had taken refuge in a cave.

From Candia, where the whole squadron is collected, the Pasha went to Canea, and afterwards to Kalyves, probably to concert measures with Mehemet Pasha. It is believed that he meditates striking another severe blow, and that he will shortly attack the Sphakia district both by land and by sea.

I have the honour to inclose bulletins of the Cretan Committee which has just been published, and contains the latest news from Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 201.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, June 25*, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival here at about 10½ P.M. yesterday, the 24th instant, of the "Arkadi," after a successful run to Crete. The following is an account given by a passenger:—

"The "Arkadi," after having been on the slip, started on a trial trip, fully laden, (1,000 bags biscuits, 500 boxes cartridges, of about 1,000 each, 252 boxes of rifles, 10 in each box, 32 bales leather, 20 bags of shoes, 10 bags tobacco, 2 boxes bandages, 3 bags of flints, 2 boxes gunmakers' tools), on Saturday the 22nd, and ran out to Tinos, exercising the men at her new guns. Finding all in order, she returned to Syra, and took on board some 140 volunteers, and started at 4 P.M. for Zea, where she arrived at 8½ P.M. of same day. There she embarked some 320 Roumeliotes under Captain Mitza, and passing along the west coast of Zea, and east of Santerino, when off Cape Sideri (north-east of Crete), a Turkish vessel was sighted off Spinalonga; but as evening was approaching (Sunday the 23rd) the "Arkadi" kept her course, and arrived at 1½ A.M. (on Monday the 24th) without molestation, at Psari Foratha (due south of Lasethes) at about 4¼ A.M., the volunteers having all landed, and the cargo being nearly all discharged, a Turkish vessel was seen coming from the eastward, when anchor was weighed and the boats got in; and the "Arkadi" ran along the coast westward, under a heavy cloud of Newcastle coal smoke, for about five miles, and then doubling, ran back on the same track, burning Cardiff coal; but the Turkish vessel (a corvette) not being far off, the "Arkadi" did not discharge the remaining cargo of 260 sacks biscuit, and 12 boxes rifles (10 in a box), but kept eastward, and rounding the south of the Island Kaphonisi. A Turkish vessel was sighted at 7½ A.M. off Cape Salmone (on east coast of Crete) when the "Arkadi" made again eastward, while the Turk ran down the coast till about half-way. When at 8½ A.M. she struck also eastwardly, having apparently sighted the "Arkadi," which crossed her bows, the vessels being about four miles apart; but at 9½ A.M. the "Arkadi" having the Turkish vessel astern, got rapidly away, running at the rate of about fifteen miles per hour. At 9¾ A.M. three Turkish steamers under canvas, supposed to be transports, were seen off Scarpanto, and the "Arkadi" kept her course; at 10½ A.M. three more steamers were sighted east of Scarpanto, bearing towards the south of Crete; and the "Arkadi" keeping the curve, rounded Scarpanto, and leaving Santorino on her port side, reached Syra at 10½ P.M., as stated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 201.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee, June $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

LES communications entre les Chrétiens des districts de Lassithion, de Messara et d'Héraclion continuent à être rigoureusement interrompues : Aussi n'avons-nous point reçu des rapports détaillés des Chefs. Mais nous tenons d'autres sources des nouvelles sur les événements qui s'y sont passés. Il résulte de ces renseignements que très positivement l'expédition d'Omer Pacha contre Lassithion a complétement échoué. Les Consuls des Puissances Chrétiennes à la Canée et à Héraclion en sont pleinement convaincus, eux qui d'abord avaient ajouté une foi entière aux rapports du Général Ottoman.

Omer Pacha, ayant attaqué Lassithion à plusieurs reprises avec toutes ses forces, a été d'abord repoussé avec des pertes considérables. Ayant ensuite réussi à pénétrer avec assez de troupes dans le plateau, par un endroit qui n'était pas gardé, il n'a pu ni avancer, ni déloger les nôtres des fortes positions qu'ils occupaient. Désespérant au bout de plusieurs jours de réussir, il est retourné à Héraclion où il a fait appeler les Chrétiens et leur a déclaré que le Gouvernement Turc est décidé à confisquer les propriétés de tous les insurgés, s'ils ne déposent les armes, et qu'il se propose d'élever des tours dans les districts orientaux comme il l'a fait dans le Monténégro.

Toutes les pertes des nôtres consistent en 20 tués et 25 blessés. Il n'y en a eu qu'un seul fait prisonnier, c'est un volontaire venu de Constantinople, Minas Zachariadis, pris tandis qu'il dormait dans une grotte. Omer Pacha s'est empressé de faire savoir par un courrier exprès à son Gouvernement qu'il avait pris le Secrétaire de Zymbracakis, croyant que Zachariadis était ce Secrétaire.

Les nôtres ont gardé leurs positions, et, après le départ d'Omer Pacha se sont dirigés vers Messara, en voyant que l'armée Ottomane avait abandonné son entreprise sur Lassithion.

Le Général Ottoman s'est rendu à la Canée. Il a reçu de nouveau renforts de 6,000 soldats et de quelques bâtiments de guerre. Maintenant il prépare une attaque générale contre Sphakia par terre et par mer. Les bâtiments de guerre sont allés à Loutron et Omer Pacha s'est mis à la tête des troupes Turques campées dans l'Apocorona.

Les actes de cruauté commis par Omer Pacha dans son expédition contre Lassithion, après son insuccès, sont inouïs. Il a brûlé 15 villages, il a fait crucifier et torturer des Chrétiens sans armes. Il a obligé par la force une quarantaine de Chrétiens à signer une pétition rédigée par lui. Voilà les grands succès de ce général, qui dispose d'une flotte entière, d'une armée de 30,000 hommes, dont un corps de cavalerie nombreux, et de plusieurs forteresses. Voilà la raison pour laquelle toute communication était rigoureusement interrompue.

(Translation)

COMMUNICATION between the Christians of the districts of Lassithion, Messara, and Heraclion, continues to be rigorously cut off, and we have not received any detailed reports from the Chiefs. But we have other sources of information respecting the events which have passed there. It is evident from these accounts that Omer Pasha's expedition against Lassithion has most positively failed completely. The Consuls of the Christian Powers at Canea and Heraclion are fully convinced of it—those very persons who at first placed entire confidence in the Reports of the Ottoman General.

Omer Pasha, having attacked Lassithion several times with the whole of his forces, was at first repulsed with considerable loss. Having subsequently succeeded in making his way, with sufficient troops, on to the plateau, through an unguarded pass, he was unable either to advance or to dislodge our people from the strong positions they had taken up. After some days, despairing of success, he returned to Heraclion, where he called the Christians together, and declared to them that the Turkish Government had determined to confiscate the property of all the insurgents, unless they laid down their arms, and that they proposed to construct towers in the Eastern districts as they had done in Montenegro.

All our losses amount to twenty killed and twenty-five wounded. Only one man was taken prisoner, a volunteer from Constantinople, Minas Zachariadis, taken whilst asleep in a cave. Omer Pasha hastened to inform his Government by an express courier that he had taken the Secretary of Zimbrakaki, believing Zachariadis to be that Secretary.

Our men held their positions, and, after the departure of Omer Pasha, marched towards Messara, seeing that the Ottoman army had abandoned its enterprise on Lassithion.

The Turkish General went to Canea. He has received fresh reinforcements of 6,000 soldiers and some vessels of war. Now he is planning a general attack by land and sea on Sphakia. The men-of-war have gone to Loutron, and Omer Pasha has placed himself at the head of the Turkish troops encamped in Apocorona.

The acts of cruelty committed by Omer Pasha after his failure in the expedition against Lassithion are unheard-of. He burned fifteen villages, and crucified and tortured unarmed Christians. He compelled about forty Christians, by violence, to sign a petition drawn up by himself. These are the grand successes of a General who is in command of a whole fleet, of an army of 30,000 men, including a large body of cavalry, and of several fortresses. This is the reason why all communication was rigorously cut off.

No. 202.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 8.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, June* 24, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Generalissimo arrived here yesterday evening from Candia, on board the steam-frigate "Feizi-bahri."

After the entry of the Imperial army into Lasethe, and the destruction that ensued of the villages on that plateau, the troops have been withdrawn into Candia Town, and it is not known yet what further plan of operation Omer Pasha may have in contemplation, or how long his Highness proposes remaining at Canea.

I may remark, with reference to the late Ismail Pasha, Commander of the Egyptian contingent, and whose death I announced in my despatch of the 17th instant, that he was a native of Lasethe, and by birth a Christian. Having, when a mere youth, been sent to Egypt as a slave, he was brought up by the late Mehmet Ali Pasha, and joined the Viceroy's army. The family name is Pappadati, his father having been a priest; and a brother of the late Pasha, now at Athens, has since the outbreak of the insurrection been one of the most active members of the Cretan Committee.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 203.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 9.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, July* 2, 1867.

THE "Turquie" newspaper of the day before yesterday publishes two official Reports from Omer Pasha respecting his operations in Crete. I have the honour to transmit copies to your Lordship herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 203.

Extract from "La Turquie" of June 29, 1867.

Rapports Officiels du Serdar-Ekrem Omer Pacha, sur les événements de Candie en réponse aux mensonges propagés par la presse Hellénique, suivis d'une demande de pardon signée par 116 *prêtres et primats du district de Mirambello.*

Du Camp devant Candie, le 28 *Mouharem,* 1284
Excellence, (20 *Mai,* 1867).

AYANT été informé que les journaux Helléniques ont publié une série de nouvelles controuvées sur nos opérations depuis mon arrivée en cette île, j'ai cru de mon devoir de vous adresser le présent rapport véridique.

La vitesse de "l'Arcadi" étant supérieure à tous les bâtiments de notre flotte, le blocus de l'Ile de Crète devient difficile. Pour isoler et couper toutes communications par mer avec Sphakia, chief-lieu de l'insurrection, mon plan est d'occuper, avec des forces suffisantes tous les districts qui entourent celui de Sphakia, et de l'attaquer, après, en un temps donné, de plusieurs côtés. A cet effet, j'ai formé une brigade volante devant la Canée qui fait ses excursions du côté de Kéramia et du côté de Lakos; une autre division occupe le district d'Apocorona en observant les défilés d'Askifos, la troisième, devant Réthymo fait ses excursions dans les districts de Réthymo et Milopotamo. Pendant ces opérations préparatoires, nos troupes ont battu avec une bravoure remarquable toutes les forces des insurgés qui se sont présentées devant elles. La division composée de huit bataillons d'infanterie qui suit mon Quartier-Général, a traversé toutes ces provinces sans engagements, jusqu'au district de Milopotamo, où, lés insurgés ont voulu nous couper le passage de notre jonction avec la division dans la province de Candie, mais, ils se sont fortement trompés, parce qu'ils ont été battus durant le premier et le second jour de notre marche, et bien que le terrain leur était assez favorable le troisième jour, ils n'ont pas osé, cependant se montrer.

Après cette jonction, comme cette province est aussi insurgée et, qu'en même temps, Koronéos avec ses volontaires Grecs se trouve dans les montagnes de Lachit, tout transport de provisions pour former nos magasins doit être protégé par de forts détachements, cette opération a été terminée en trois jours. Maintenant Koronéos sera attaqué avec toutes ses forces insurgées dans la Montagne de Lachit et Mirambello.

En conséquence des détails qui précèdent on voit, que les insurgés ont été battus et chassés jusque dans les hautes montagnes dans toutes les rencontres qui ont eu lieu. Pour plus amples renseignements, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre, ci-après, nominativement les combats qui ont été livrés.

La première fois, dans les villages Spiliana, Métochi, et Plaïvoglia (district de Kéramia) où, ils ont été battus par la brigade volante qui fait ses excursions du côté de Kéramia; ils ont perdu plus que quatre-vingt tués.

La seconde, par la division d'Apocorona dans les montagnes situées entre les villages Prosnéro et Ali Kampos (district d'Apocorona) où ils laissèrent sur le champ du combat environ soixante-dix morts. Zimbracaki et les autres premiers chefs étaient présent dans ces deux combats.

La troisième, dans Episcopi, Plati, Castel, Kurna et Arghiropolis, ou Stambol keuï (district de Réthymo).

Tous ces villages ont été pris d'assaut par la division de Réthymo. Les insurgées perdirent cette fois-ci quarante-deux hommes, le nombre de leurs blessés dans ces trois combats est inconnu.

La quatrième par la division qui suit mon Quartier-Général, à Pérama, Margharités, d'où ils ont été poursouvis jusqu'à Prinès, et se sont enfuis sur les montagnes les plus élevées après avoir eu deux chefs blessés. Le terrain sur lequel eut lieu le quatrième engagement étant rocailleux, plein d'oliviers, d'arbres rustiques et escarpé, nous avons passé en avant sans chercher à nous renseigner sur le nombre exact de leurs morts.

La cinquième, à Garasso, Axo, et Anoya. Dans tous ces engagements nous avous eu douze morts, et soixante-quatre blessés; la perte de l'ennemi a été sextuple.

Tout ce que la presse Hellénique a écrit sur ce sujet est dénué de fondement. Voilà, Excellence, l'exposé authentique des faits, veuillez en faire l'usage que vous croierez nécessaire.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signed) OMER.

Excellence, *Du Camp Castel, le 9 Sépher,* 1284 (1 *Juin,* 1867).

EN me référant à ma dernière dépêche du 28 Mouharem, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-après, le rapport de nos opérations depuis lors jusqu'aujourd'hui.

Dimanche passé, mes troupes ont pris, d'assaut, la montagne la plus élevée de Lachit sur laquelle se trouvait le couvent Afedi. Le second jour, elles se sont reposées, et, le troisième, elles sont descendues dans le village Plati, daus la plaine de Lachit, où elles ont repoussé et battu 8,000 insurgés. Toute cette opération s'est fait dans le vallon du dit couvent jusque dans le village Plati, sans que nos troupes aient marché sur des routes; elles se sont avancées par des montagnes impraticables.

Après avoir reçu des approvisionnements pour cinq jours, remplacé les munitions dépensées, elles ont fait une attaque du côté gauche de leur position, d'où elles ont battu et repoussé l'ennemi. Par cette opération, nous avons gagné la route nommée Afto-Mesari, qui nous donne une communication sûre et commode; et de nouveau après deux

jours de repos, les insurgés ont été repoussés dans les montagnes sur le village Psichró et nous sommes devenus maîtres de plusieurs villages situés dans la plaine de Lachit, y compris le village et couvent Kroustallenia où nous avons trouvé plus de 8,000 oques de plomb et 50 caisses de cartouches.

Avant-hier, toute la force insurgée avait pris position dans le village de Tchernicado, et, sur les montagnes très hautes et rocailleuses du côté nord de ce village, où l'on avait élevé des parapets en plusieurs lignes. Hier, nous l'avons attaqué de nouveau, dans cette position inexpugnable de deux côtés, c'est-à-dire du côté de la plaine de Lachit. Une autre colonne sortit du village Castel se dirigea sur les villages Avdoù et Ghoniès en bas du couvent de Kéra pour couper leur retraite. Nous avons commencé l'opération de bonne heure, mais une forte pluie a empêché et retardé nos opérations, parce que la montagne et la position de l'ennemi étaient couvertes de nuages qui nous empêchaient de voir et nous fûmes obligés d'attendre jusqu'à deux heures et demie que le ciel s'éclaircit. A cette heure, je me suis trouvé sur la hauteur à l'ouest d'Avdoù où a été donné le signal pour commencer l'attaque. Après un combat sévère, l'ennemi a a été délogé et chassé de partout, et il s'est mis en pleine fuite sur la haute montagne de Kato et Epano Potami en perdant un drapeau Hellénique. Dans tous ces combats, la perte des insurgés, selon la déposition du nommé Mina Zachariadi (Aide-de-camp du Capitaine Bouyouklidi) fait prisonnier, a été très forte ; les Hellènes seuls ont eu une perte de 400 à 500 hommes tués et certainement beaucoup de blessés. Les indigènes aussi ont éprouvé des pertes sensibles en tués et blessés. De notre côté, dans tous ces combats, nous avons eu 18 morts et 95 blessés.

D'après la déposition du sus-énoncé Mina Zachariade, la force de l'ennemi le premier jour du combat était de 8,000 hommes, au troisième et quatrième combat ce nombre avait diminué fortement surtout celui des insurgés Crétois, cela prouve qu'ils se sont mis au large du combat, et qu'ils se sont dispersés, sans doute, dans leurs villages. Dans le combat d'hier, il y avait très peu d'indigènes, les Hellènes sont restés presque seuls, toute leur force pouvait être calculée entre 2,000 à 3,000 hommes. J'ai observé même que les insurgés de Mirambello se sont enfuis vers leur province en abandonnant les brigands Grecs. Sans doute, ceux de Lachit aussi sont allés sur la montagne de Kritsa avec leurs familles et bestiaux. Cela me fait supposer que par le grand effet de nos armes, les insurgés indigènes, non-seulement ont perdu tout leur courage, mais maudissent aussi les Hellènes et leurs chefs indigènes de les avoir trompé et forcé par toutes sortes d'aggressions de prendre part à la révolte.

A notre entrée à Lachit, en occupant la plus haute montagne, laquelle est la clé de l'entrée, je me suis fait un devoir d'humanité d'envoyer aux insurgés un Chrétien nommé Galifi Dimitri pour leur faire savoir que toute résistance était impossible et de faire leur soumission. Malheureusement, je me suis trompé : le prêtre nommé Yanni, conjointement avec d'autres, écrivit aux chefs des insurgés, après que l'envoyé fût parti, que c'était un espion. Ce malheureux a été traité par les chefs insurgés des Hellènes et indigènes d'une manière dont l'histoire fournit peu d'exemples. Le cœur humain se révolte contre une telle atrocité sans égale avec laquelle fut traité cet envoyé. On lui coupa les oreilles, le nez et la moitié de la langue, et, après l'avoir dépouillé, en le renvoya dans un état si pitoyable que nos médecins doutent de sauver sa vie. On lui avait montré la lettre qui l'accusait d'espionage. Les coupables ont été découverts, et après un examen minutieux et scrupuleux, ils ont fait la déposition qui établit ces faits.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) OMER.

P.S.—Au moment de cacheter et d'expédier la présente, je viens de recevoir une pétition générale des habitants Chrétiens du district de Mirambello me mandant soumission.

En vous transmettant, ci-joint, la traduction de cette pièce, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer, Excellence, que les insurgés indigènes de plusieurs autres villages de divers districts, m'ont déjà adressé, aussi des pièces dans le même sens, et, que je leur ai répondu, catégoriquement, que je ne pouvais satisfaire à leur demande, sans que la remise immédiate des armes de toutes espèces en leur possession fût préalablement effectuée.

La remise des armes a commencée à s'opérer ; déjà, plusieurs villages ont remis les armes, et, d'autres se préparent à suivre le même exemple.

A son Altesse le Serdar-Ekrem Omer Pacha, &c., au Camp Castel.

Nous Soussignés, très humbles serviteurs, sujets fidèles de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, habitants Chrétiens du district de Mirambello, nous avons l'honneur d'informer

votre Altesse que, des ennemis de la tranquillité publique nous ont trompé, l'année passée, en nous promettant des privilèges et beaucoup d'autres choses, et que nous autres aussi, comme de simples et ignorants villageois, nous avons cru aux intrigues de ces ennemis et nous avons, malheureusement, méconnu les ordres de notre respectable Gouvernement. Mais, aprés avoir bien pensé et approfondi les tromperies de ces ennemis, nous avons recouru, alors, à son Excellence Rechid Effendi (Gouverneur Civil de Candie) implorant pardon et témoignant notre soumission.

Son Excellence Rechid Effendi, mû par un sentiment d'humanité, a bien voulu pardonner alors toutes nos fautes et nous avons fait notre soumission. Depuis lors, nous étions très tranquilles et nous vivions paisiblement occupés avec nos travaux agricoles, lorsque, à l'improviste, le 29 Avril, Samedi soir, un bateau à vapeur, est arrivé apportant des soldats, des armes, des munitions. Les soldats ennemis nous ont forcé de nous unir à eux et de recevoir, bon gré, mal gré, des armes; celui qui ne voulait pas s'unir était battu, sa maison était brûlée, son bétail égorgé, et en même temps il était exposé à beaucoup d'autres tourments; enfin ces ennemis nous ont réduits à un état pitoyable. Voilà, Altesse, notre position, tous d'un commun accord, nous déclarons par la présente pétition générale, être sujets fidèles de Sa Majesté le Sultan, et rester encore comme tels pour toujours, pour plus ample conviction de votre Altesse, nous sommes prêts à nous engager, même par écrit à ne pas nous insurger une autre fois et nous nous obligeons d'obéir, dorénavant, aux ordres du Gouvernement.

Nous implorons donc la clémence de Sa Majesté le Sultan, nous reconnaisons notre culpabilité, et nous prions de ne pas être punis, car c'est la nécessité qui nous a obligés de devenir coupables, parce que les troupes Impériales sont parties immédiatement lorsque ce bateau à vapeur est arrivé; de sorte que nous sommes restés orphelins et sans administration, nous avons été forcés d'agir ainsi.

Altesse! ayez pitié donc de nos innocents enfants! ayez pitie, Altesse, de nous! ayez pitie, ayez pitie! et pardonnez nous encore pour cette fois.

Nous supplions que notre prière soit exausée, et que vous daigniez nous sauver du danger qui nous menace. Que Dieu accorde de précieux jours à notre Souverain Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan Abdul-Aziz-Khan!

Mirambello, le 31 *Mai,* 1867.

"Suivent 116 (cent seize) signatures des prêtres, primats, et autres habitants du district de Mirambello."

Les pièces que nous venons de publier n'ont pas besoin de commentaires; elles fournissent plutôt un commentaire éloquent à tous les articles que nous avons publiés sur les causes de l'insurrection Crétoise, et la pitoyable situation faite à de malheureuses populations par la rapacité étrangère, et une désastreuse tendance à appliquer à tort et à travers le principe des nationalités.

(Translation.)

Official Reports of the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, on the events in Candia, in reply to the falsehoods propagated by the Greek Press, followed by a Petition for Pardon signed by 116 *Priests and Primates of the District of Mirambello.*

From the Camp before Candia, 28 *Mouharem,* 1284
(*May* 20, 1867).

Your Excellency,

HAVING been informed that the Hellenic newspapers have published a series of misrepresented accounts of our operations since my arrival in this island, I have thought it my duty to address to you the present truthful Report.

The speed of the "Arkadi" being greater than that of any of the vessels of our fleet, the blockade of the Island of Crete is becoming difficult. To isolate and cut off all communications by sea with Sphakia, the focus of the insurrection, my plan is to occupy with a sufficient force all the districts which surround that of Sphakia, and to attack the latter afterwards, at a given moment, from various points. With this idea, I formed a flying column in front of Canea, which makes incursions in the directions of Keramia and Lakos; another division occupies the district of Apocorona, watching the defiles of Askifos; the third, before Retimo, makes its excursions into the districts of Retimo and Mylopotamo. During these preparatory operations, our troops defeated, with remarkable bravery, all the insurgents' forces, which met them face to face. The division, composed of eight battalions of infantry, which follows my staff, passed through all these Provinces without an engagement, until they reached the district of

Mylopotamo, where the insurgents wanted to prevent our junction with the division in the Province of Candia; but they were greatly deceived, for they were beaten on the first and second days of our march, and although the ground favoured them considerably on the third day, they did not dare to show themselves.

After this junction, as this Province is also in a state of insurrection, and, at the same time, Coroneos with his Greek volunteers is in the mountains of Lachit, every convoy of provisions for our magazines must be protected by strong detachments. This operation was completed in three days. Now Coroneos, with all his insurgent forces, will be attacked in the mountains of Lachit and Mirambello.

From the preceding details it will be seen that the insurgents were defeated and pursued as far as the high mountains, in every encounter which took place. For fuller information I have the honour to report to you herewith, by name, the battles which were fought.

In the first fight in the villages of Spiliana, Metochi, and Plaïvoglia (district of Keramia) they were defeated by the flying column which makes its excursions in the direction of Keramia; they lost more than eighty killed.

In the second, by the division of Apocorona among the mountains situated between the villages of Prosnéro and Ali Kampos (district of Apocorona), where they left on the field of battle about seventy killed. Zimbrakaki and the other leading chiefs were present in these two fights.

In the third, at Episcopi, Plati, Castel, Kurna, and Arghiropolis or Stambol-keuï (district of Retimo).

All these villages were taken by assault by the Retimo division. The insurgents lost this time forty-two men; the number of their wounded in these three combats is unknown.

In the fourth battle they were beaten by the division which follows my staff, at Pérama and Margharités, whence they were pursued as far as Prines, and fled to the highest mountains, after two of their leaders had been wounded. The ground on which the fourth engagement took place, being rocky, covered with olive and other trees, and steep, we marched on without seeking to inform ourselves as to the exact number of their dead.

The fifth fight took place at Garasso, Axo, and Anoya. In all these engagements we lost twelve killed and sixty-four wounded; the enemy's loss was six times as great.

All that the Hellenic press has written on this subject is devoid of foundation. The above, your Excellency, is the authentic account of what happened, which you will make use of as yon think fit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OMER.

Your Excellency, *The Camp at Castel, June* 1, 1867.

WITH reference to my last despatch of the 28th Moharrem, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the report of our operations from that date up to now.

Last Sunday, my troops took by storm the highest mountain of Lachit, on which was the Convent of Afedi. On the second day they rested, and on the third they descended to the village of Plati, in the plain of Lachit, where they repulsed and defeated 8,000 insurgents. The whole of this operation took place in the valley, from the convent as far as the village of Plati, without our troops having once marched on a road; they advanced over inaccessible mountains.

After receiving provisions for five days and replenishing their expended ammunition, they made an attack on the left flank of their position, where they beat and repulsed the enemy. By this manœuvre we gained the road called Afto Mesari, which gives us a certain and convenient means of communication; and again, after two days' rest, the insurgents were pushed back into the mountains and on to the village of Psichro, and we made ourselves masters of several villages situated in the plain of Lachit, including that of Kroustallenia with its convent, where we found more than 8,000 okes of lead and 50 cases of cartridges.

The day before yesterday the insurgent forces had taken up their position in the village of Tchernicado, and on the very high and rocky mountains to the north of this village, where they had erected several lines of parapets. Yesterday we again attacked them in this position, which was impregnable on two sides, that is to say, from the plain of Lachit. Another column left the village of Castel, and marched on the villages of Avdou and Ghoniès, below the convent of Kera, in order to cut off their retreat. We began the attack early, but a drenching rain retarded our operations, because the

mountain and the enemy's position were enveloped in a mist which prevented our seeing them, and we were obliged to wait till half-past 2 o'clock for the sky to clear. At that hour I was on the western height of Avdou, where the signal for commencing the assault was given. After a sharp conflict, the enemy was dislodged and pursued from every point, and fled to the mountain of Kato and Epano Potami, losing a Greek flag. In all these combats, the loss of the insurgents, according to the statement of one Mina Zachariadi (Aide-de-camp to Captain Bouyouklidi) who was taken prisoner, was very great; the Hellenes alone lost 400 or 500 men killed and many wounded. The natives suffered severe losses in killed and wounded. On our side, in the several fights, we lost eighteen killed and ninety-five wounded.

According to the statement of the above-mentioned Mina Zachariadi, the strength of the enemy on the first day was 8,000 men, and in the third and fourth engagements their numbers were greatly diminished, particularly those of the Cretan rebels, which proves that they ran away in the fight and doubtless dispersed to their villages. In yesterday's battle there were very few natives, and the Hellenes were left all alone, their force being probably between 2,000 and 3,000 men. I even observed that the insurgents from Mirambello fled towards their own province and deserted the Greek brigands. Doubtless the men of Lachit also retired to the mountain of Kritza, with their families and cattle. That makes me suppose that, terrified by the great effect produced by our arms, the native insurgents have not only lost courage, but are now also cursing the Greeks and their native chiefs for having deceived them, and forced them by every kind of provocation to take part in the revolt.

On our entering Lachit, after occupying the highest mountain, which is the key to the entrance, I considered myself bound in humanity to send to the insurgents a Christian named Galifi Dimitri to inform them that all resistance was useless, and to advise them to submit. Unfortunately I was deceived; the priest Yanni, with several others, wrote word to the chiefs of the insurgents that he was a spy. The unlucky man was treated by the insurgent Hellenic and native chiefs in a way of which history furnishes few examples. The human heart revolts against such unparalleled atrocity as that with which this messenger was treated. They cut off his nose, his ears, and half his tongue, and after robbing him, sent him back in a state so pitiable that our doctors doubt being able to save his life. They had shown him the letter which accused him of being a spy. The guilty authors of it were discovered, and after a minute and scrupulous investigation made a confession, which establishes these facts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OMER.

P.S.—When on the point of sealing and sending off this despatch I received a general petition from the Christian inhabitants of the district of Mirambello, begging me to accept their submission.

In transmitting herewith the translation of this document, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the native insurgents of several other villages of various districts have already addressed to me documents to the same effect, and that I answered them categorically that I could not comply with their request unless the immediate surrender of arms of all sorts which they had in their possession were previously effected.

The surrender of arms has begun to take place already; several villages have given up their arms, and others are preparing to follow their example.

To his Highness the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, &c., in the Camp Castel.

We, the Undersigned, very humble servants and faithful subjects of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, Christian inhabitants of the district of Miramballo, have the honour to inform your Highness that certain enemies to public tranquillity deceived us last year by promising us privileges and many other things, and that we, like simple and ignorant peasants, believed in the intrigues of these enemies, and unfortunately ignored the orders of our respected Government. But after having well-considered and weighed the wiles of these enemies, we had recourse to his Excellency Reschid Effendi (Civil Governor of Candia), imploring pardon, and testifying our submission.

His Excellency Reschid Effendi, moved by a feeling of humanity, was then pleased to pardon all our faults, and we made our submission. Since then we were very quiet and were living peaceably, busied with agricultural labours, when suddenly, on the 29th of April, Sunday evening, a steamer arrived bringing soldiers, arms, and ammunition.

The unfriendly soldiers forced us to join them, and to receive arms whether we desired it or not; whoever refused to join was beaten, his house was burnt, his cattle slaughtered, and he was at the same time exposed to many other tortures. At length these enemies reduced us to a pitiable condition. This, your Excellency, is our position, and we all with one accord declare by this general petition that we are faithful subjects of His Majesty the Sultan, and remain so for ever. To convince your Highness more amply, we are ready to engage ourselves, even in writing, not to rebel again, and we oblige ourselves to obey henceforth the orders of the Government.

We therefore implore the mercy of His Majesty the Sultan; we acknowledge our guilt, and we pray not to be punished, for it was necessity that forced us to transgress; for the Imperial troops marched away immediately on the arrival of the steamer; so that we remained orphans and without an administration, and were compelled to act as we did.

Your Highness! have pity, then, on our innocent children! Have pity on us! Have pity, have pity! and pardon us again for this one time.

We pray that our prayer may be favourably heard, and that you will deign to save us from the danger which threatens us. May God grant precious days to our Sovereign, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan Abdul Aziz Khan!

Mirambello, May 31, 1867.

(Follow 116 signatures of the priests, primates, and other inhabitants of the district of Mirambello).

The documents we have just published have need of no comments; they rather furnish an eloquent comment on all the articles which we have published relative to the causes of the Cretan insurrection, and to the pitiable position in which unfortunate populations are placed by foreign rapacity, and a disastrous tendency to apply in every direction the principle of nationalities.

No. 204.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 11.)

(Extract.) *Paris, July* 10, 1867.

IN the course of a conversation which I had yesterday with M. de Moustier, his Excellency dwelt with considerable emphasis on the importance he attached to the present aspect of the Cretan question. He said that he had recently passed more than two hours in endeavouring to ascertain from Fuad Pacha whether the Porte intended to accept or refuse the proposed inquiry into the affairs of the island; but he found it impossible to elicit a definite reply from his Excellency, whose language was as ambiguous as that employed in the Porte's answer to the collective representation which had recently been made to it on this subject.

M. de Moustier said that he strongly desired that the Porte in its own interest should accept the inquiry, for he believed that would be the wisest course it could pursue.

M. de Moustier proceeded to say that he heartily wished for the support of Her Majesty's Government on this question.

No. 205.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 12th and 23rd of June, respecting the alleged attack on the "Arkadi" by a Turkish cruizer in Greek waters at Cerigotto.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to find, by the former of those despatches, that the orders previously given to Turkish cruizers against violating any rules of public maritime law have been repeated; and among these rules, I need scarcely tell your Excellency, none is more universally recognized than that it is not lawful for a belligerent to fire at a vessel of which it has been previously in pursuit, when that vessel has once arrived in neutral waters.

I inclose for your information a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Ellis in this matter.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 206.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1867.

I HAVE received your several despatches respecting the allegation of the Greek Government, that Turkish ships of war in pursuit of the "Arkadi" had continued firing into that vessel after she had come within Greek waters at Cerigotto.

I do not think it necessary to examine the conflicting statements that have been put forth by both parties in regard to this transaction. That immunity from the pursuit of a belligerent should be enjoyed by an enemy's vessel after it has entered neutral waters, is a well-known principle of international maritime law; but the fact of the belligerent continuing to fire on such a vessel, which is habitually engaged in breaking blockade, does not justify the latter in returning the fire.

I will only further observe that if, as is unquestionably the case, the Greek Government gives shelter in its ports to a ship like the "Arkadi," which is habitually employed in carrying soldiers to aid the insurrection in Crete, they have very little, if any, right to complain of a few shots having been fired by the Turkish men-of-war at that vessel, even though they may have been fired after she had entered within the exact line of the territorial waters of Greece.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 207.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 12.)

My Lord, *Athens, July* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, reporting the fifteenth voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete, and her safe return. The Austrian boat from Crete not having arrived I have no news of the insurrection in that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 207.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, June* 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report another voyage to Crete and back of the "Arkadi," being her fifteenth. She started hence on Wednesday eve, the 26th instant, at about 9 P.M., with her usual cargo of ammunition, provisions, and 360 volunteers, and, going round by Cerigotto, proceeded direct to Agia Roumeli, where she arrived about 10 P.M. of the 27th instant, and having landed all the cargo and volunteers, started at 2·30 A.M. of the 28th, and, returning the way she went, arrived here about 8 P.M., without falling in with or seeing any Turkish cruizer, either going or returning. She brought to Syra the family of the late Cretan Chief, Dedidaki, killed in a late encounter near Retimo.

The Turkish fleet was all at Dibaki of Messara.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

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* No. 206.

No. 208.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Fane.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, July* 15, 1867.

THE French Ambassador called upon me to-day, and communicated to me the substance of a despatch which he had received from M. de Moustier.

In this despatch M. de Moustier incloses a copy of the answer given by the Porte to the collective representation made to it on the subject of Crete by certain Powers, and he then goes on to say that he had again discussed the question with Fuad Pasha, and that the latter appeared seriously impressed by what he, M. de Moustier, had said, and on which, he observed, he must consult his colleagues.

M. de Moustier is of opinion that Fuad Pasha will be greatly influenced by the opinion of the English Government. M. de Moustier's own view of the matter is, that the Porte should itself take up the idea of instituting an inquiry, and he hopes that Her Majesty's Government will concur in this idea, and press the point with earnestness on the Porte. It is not, M. de Moustier observes, for the Porte a question of accepting an inquiry proposed to it, but of instituting one on its own account. He thinks there is much importance in this distinction; but he is of opinion that, if the Porte remains obstinate on this point, it is impossible to say what will be the result of such a state of things.

M. de Moustier considers that agreement between England and France can alone avert the evil consequences which may be apprehended.

I told the Prince de le Tour d'Auvergne that I would discuss the matter with Fuad Pasha, whom I had lately seen, and probably should soon see again. More than this I could not at present say.

The French Ambassador appeared entirely to disbelieve the reports lately received here of Omer Pasha's success. His information, he said, was of an official character.

No. 209.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 16.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July* 1, 1867.

WITH reference to my Report of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Omer Pasha having proceeded round to Kalyves by sea, returned to Canea the same day. On the 27th, his Highness, accompanied by a small body of Cretan and Albanian Irregulars, again embarked on board the "Feizi-Bahri" frigate, which steamed for Kissamos Castelli, thence to the coast of Sphakia.

The Ottoman squadron, having the Turkish and Egyptian Admirals on board, has left its anchorage in Suda Bay for the purpose of co-operating with the army in its forthcoming expedition.

The whole available army in Candia, comprising the reinforcements of about 5,000 men (that arrived, since the 13th ultimo, from Constantinople, Smyrna, and Salonica), will be transported by sea to Sphakia, which I believe it is proposed to attack simultaneously from different quarters.

Three battalions have been left at Castelli Pediada, the recent submission of the Candia districts not being considered trustworthy.

I cannot help mentioning a most barbarous act committed at Lasethe some days preceding the assault by the Turkish troops. Omer Pasha despatched a Cretan Christian from Castle Pediada, bearer of a letter to Captain Dimitrakarakos, with a request that he should bring back the reply. The insurgents, fancying that he must be a spy, cut off his ears, nose, and tongue, after the letter had been delivered, and in that horrible state the unfortunate man was sent back to the head-quarters to explain his errand as best he might.

The force under command of Mehmet Pasha lately made another and an unsuccessful attempt to force the pass through Prosnero and Krapi to Askyfo. The troops have since set fire to all the crops in that part of Apokorona, and the villages of Nipos, Vafeh, Prosnero, &c., have been razed to the ground. The booty seized at Lasethe is described as having been considerable; and all the olive oil, wine, and other produce that could not be removed has been annihilated by the army.

On the night of the 23rd ultimo, a Turkish officer on duty at Elasa Isle, having descried a suspicious-looking steamer in the offing, sent up three rockets as a warning

signal to the "Fevaïd" cruizer, then lying off Palaio-Eastron. The latter, on steaming out the following morning, soon discovered the "Arkadi" in Carouba Bay in the act of embarking families, the Hellenic ship having previously discharged its usual import cargo. The blockade-runner out-manœuvred the "Fevaïd" by doubling Cape Sidero, as the latter was giving it chase; and as night came on, owing to the superior speed of the "Arkadi," all further pursuit had to be relinquished. The ship is said to have been crowded with helpless fugitives.

About 2,000 troops have just arrived from Beyrout.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 210.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 19.)

My Lord, *Athens, July 11, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, giving an account of the sixteenth voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete, and of her having successfully landed 250 volunteers and all her cargo on the west coast of Crete. At Stelida, where she took in 200 men, it was hoped that over 100 brigands, who infest the frontier provinces, would be induced to embark; but it is believed that only a small portion of these have gone to Crete.

Two blockade-runners arrived at the Piræus in the last few days from Liverpool. Both are fast ships, and have one or two rifle-guns on board: the one called the "Owl" is of 330 tons and 180-horse power, and the other, the "Hornet," of 329 tons and 220-horse power. Their sale has not yet been arranged, and they left to-day for Syra, where they will probably be transferred to the Greek Navigation Company.

I beg also to inclose a copy of a further report which I have received from Mr. Lloyd, reporting another voyage which the "Arkadi" has made to Crete. She landed 76 volunteers and her cargo without being disturbed, and she brought back about 300 women and children, and she started on the 9th on her eighteenth voyage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 210.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, July 7, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report the sixteenth voyage to Crete of the "Arkadi."

She started from Syra, laden with provisions, ammunition, and 50 volunteers, at quarter-past 10 P.M. of Saturday, the 29th June, and went first to Stelida, in the Gulf of Zeitoun, where she took on board some 200 more volunteers, for whom she had to wait some time. She again started at 9 A.M. of the 4th July, and, arriving at Thermia in the evening, a letter was sent by a boat to Syra, explaining the delay. At midnight the "Arkadi" again got under weigh, and, going between Cerigotto and Cerigo, and round the west end of Crete, reached Agia-Roumeli at half-past 11 P.M. of the 5th July, where she landed the volunteers and all the cargo safely. At 1 A.M. of the 6th the "Arkadi" left Agia-Roumeli, and proceeded westward to Marmara, where she took on board 25 souls (women and children), and returned to Syra, arriving here at 6 P.M. of same day, without even seeing any Turkish cruizers.

It was reported by the natives at Agia-Roumeli that Omer Pasha had landed troops at Frango-Castelli, where were thirteen Turkish vessels; that Sherrit (?) Pasha has burned nine villages in Kissamos, and made prisoners of the females; some of whom having been violated, thirty others destroyed themselves in the sea.

An English traveller, who went in the "Arkadi" to Crete some five or six weeks ago, has now returned here.

The Greek Government frigate "Hellas," arrived here on the 5th instant, is now in the roads off the Light-house Island.

The Austrian gunboat "Wall" is the only foreign Government vessel here now.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 210.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, July* 10, 1867, 3 P.M.

I HAVE the honour to report that the "Arkadi" has just returned from her seventeenth voyage to Crete.

She left yesterday at 10 A.M., and went direct to Agia-Pelagia, of Milopotamo, when near which place, at 10 P.M., she was sighted and chased by a Turkish frigate for half an hour, and, having got away, she rounded back, and returned to Agia-Pelagia, where she landed 76 volunteers and the whole of her cargo and ammunition and provisions, and, leaving at half-past 1 A.M. of this day, proceeded to Phodeli, and, having taken about 300 souls (women and children), left at half-past 2 A.M., and returned to Syra, without seeing any other Turkish cruizers. The natives reported that Petropoulaki, Demetrokarako, and the other Cretan chiefs had gone to join Mitza at Lasethes, and that fighting was going on in Sphakia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 211.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 20.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, July* 10, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, an extract from the "Turquie," of the news lately received at the Porte from Omer Pacha in Candia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 211.

Extract from "La Turquie" of July 10, 1867.

NOUVELLES DE L'INTERIEUR.—Voici les nouvelles que la Sublime Porte a reçues d'Omer Pacha en date de Spakia 6 Juillet :—

"Presque tous les districts sont soumis et rendent leurs armes. Le 5, les troupes Impériales ont débarqué à Castel-Franco et aujourd'hui nous avons battu les insurgés, occupé plusieurs villages et forcé les rebelles à fuir. Nos soldats lancés à leur poursuite ont occupé les plus hautes montagnes de Sphakia. Les insurgés se sont partout dispersés ; une partie s'est retirée dans les grottes et nous la tenons bloquée. Cette nuit nos troupes doivent tirer du haut de ces montagnes pour y signaler leur présence et leur succès. Le désarmement de presque tous les districts s'effectue de la manière la plus paisible. Plus de 5,000 carabines rayées ont déjà été remises entre les mains des autorités."

L'officier, porteur du rapport d'Omer Pacha, annonce que la jonction des deux autres corps dans Sphakia du côté de terre devait avoir lieu le lendemain de son départ, 7 du courant.

L'aviso à vapeur Impérial "Ismail" qui avait été envoyé dernièrement dans l'Ile de Crete avec des provisions pour l'armée Impériale est arrivé hier dans notre port venant de la Canée, ayant à son bord six passagers, parmi lesquels un aide-de-camp de Son Altesse Omer Pacha porteur du rapport officiel sur les dernières opérations qui ont amené la soumission de la Crète.

L'aviso à vapeur Impérial "Izzeddin" est parti avant-hier pour l'Ile de Crète.

(Translation.)

NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR.—The following is the news received by the Sublime Porte from Omer Pasha, dated from Sphakia the 6th of July :—

"Almost all the districts have submitted and are giving up their arms. On the 5th the Imperial troops disembarked at Castel Franco, and to-day we defeated the insurgents,

occupied several villages, and forced the rebels to fly. Our soldiers rushing in pursuit occupied the highest mountains of Sphakia. The insurgents were scattered in every direction; part of them took refuge in the caves, and we are besieging them. To-night our troops are going to fire from the tops of the mountains in order to make known their presence and their success. The disarming of almost all the districts is being effected in the most peaceable manner. More than 5,000 rifled carbines have already been surrendered into the hands of the authorities."

The officer who brought Omer Pasha's Report announces that the junction of the two other corps in Sphakia, on the land side, was to have taken place the day after his departure, on the 7th instant.

The Imperial steam advice-boat "Ismail," which had lately been dispatched to the Island of Crete with provisions for the Imperial army, arrived yesterday in our port from Canea, having on board six passengers, amongst whom is an aide-de-camp of his Highness Omer Pasha, bearing an official report of the latest operations which have brought about the submission of the Cretans.

The Imperial steam advice-boat "Izzeddin" sailed the day before yesterday for the Island of Crete.

No. 212.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 20.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, July* 11, 1867.

THE Grand Vizier, Aali Pasha, told me this morning that General Ignatieff had sent the first Dragoman of the Russian Embassy to him two days before to press him to consent to the removal of women and children from Crete by Russian men-of-war, and to insist upon an official answer being given at once.

Aali Pasha went on to say that he had replied that if the Russian ships proposed to remove fighting men with their wives and children, no objection would be made by the Porte, but that it was evident that the removal of women and children only would merely tend to prolong the struggle. It would relieve the rebels in arms from a clog on their movements, and deprive them of their strongest inducement to return to their homes and live in peace and tranquillity. It would, moreover, serve as a very great moral encouragement to the rebellion. The removal of only one ship-load of women and children by a Russian man-of-war had had a most unfortunate effect, and had very much contributed to keep the rebellion alive. By consenting to the present proposal of the Russian Ambassador, the Porte would not be acting with real humanity. The result would simply be the prolongation of the struggle, and misery and bloodshed would be increased, not diminished. The recent successes of Omer Pasha gave good reason to hope that the pacification of Crete was at hand. The women and children would have nothing to fear, and no reason to wish to leave the island. The Porte could not agree to the interference of foreign ships of war.

No. 213.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 22.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July* 6, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward a translation of a letter received from the Consular Agent at Retimo, reporting some cattle-lifting by insurgents from the village of Kalaska, and various murders committed in the neighbourhood of Retimo Town by Cretan irregulars.

In the accompanying copy of a Report from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, your Lordship will find the confirmation of the wholesale destruction of property at Lasethe by the troops, as stated in my last two reports.

I have, since those letters were written, obtained positive information, moreover, that the Turkish soldiery have committed barbarities on some of the helpless Christian inhabitants of Lasethe, Mirabello, and Messara, in addition to the crops of corn, the oil and wine stocks, dwellings, &c., being wholly devastated.

The foreign volunteers at Psari-Faratha were landed from on board the "Arkadi"

to the number of some 300, previously to that steamer being chased by the "Fevaid" cruizer in Carouba Bay.

Several hundred more Hellenic volunteers have since been conveyed from Greece by the "Arkadi" to Agia Rumelia and other points of the Sfakia coast, besides ammunition, provisions, &c.

A body of troops lately sallied from Kissamos Castelli and made a succession of raids on the villages in that district, from Castelli as far as Kalathines and Topolia. The day before yesterday I, in company with a party of friends, being on St. Theodoro Island, could plainly see volumes of smoke issuing in the direction of Kissamos district and other burning villages, Yerani Lutraki, Agia-Irene, &c. The latter were mercilessly sacked and set fire to by some Turco-Egyptian troops and a number of Cretan irregulars, who made a sortie from Canea on the morning of the 4th instant, headed by Hassan Pasha. During these raids, it is asserted, by some eye-witnesses, that the Cretan irregulars fired first upon the peaceable villages, thus compelling their inmates to flee. While the soldiery were engaged in robbing and burning, they frequently would not spare the lives of any Christian who remained behind, regardless of either sex or age.

A few days ago I rode out to the village of Galata, within five miles of this city, together with M. Cassimati (Dragoman to Her Majesty's Consulate), who owns a large farm there. Nearly all its Christian inhabitants had left it, most of the families having gone over to Greece at the outbreak of the rebellion, and a very few only of the men having joined the insurgents. We found bands of Cretan irregulars fully armed roving through the village and its neighbourhood; the houses and two churches had been entirely stripped. In the cemetery the marble slab placed over the grave of M. Cassimati's two children was broken in pieces. Other graves were similarly violated and defiled. Some villagers present testified to having seen the regular Turkish patrol, consisting of twenty men, committing that outrage during the night, in quest of treasure. Having ridden to the Turkish outpost to which the patrol in question belonged, and on my complaining to the officer in command, he, as usually happens on similar occasions, flatly denied the charge, adding that he would have his men severely punished if guilty of such heinous offence. If I ventured to cite my informants, they would surely, sooner or later, I fear, meet with vengeance at the hands of the Turks.

The irritation evinced by Mussulmans of the lower class towards Christians indiscriminately has, since the warfare commenced, been increasing to such a degree, that remonstrances and protests on the part of the latter against any misdeeds committed by Mahometans seldom produce any marked effect; but, on the contrary, such representations not unfrequently recoil upon other unoffending parties, and under another form of oppression. In view of the turmoil and fanaticism now existing, and all the intrigues, I doubt myself whether the authorities have always the power of punishing offenders. I consider that a Consular officer, desirous of efficiently discharging his duties, and in the very interest of humanity, cannot, in these sorrowful times, act with too much caution or prudence in regard to facts arising out of the insurrection.

Information has just been received of Omer Pasha having entered Sfakia through Franko-Castelli and Kallikrati; his Highness had conveyed most of the troops forming the expedition from Dibaki at Messara, whence they were shipped to Sfakia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S. *July* 8.—According to further intelligence just received, Omer Pasha, with eight battalions and several thousand irregulars, landed at Franco-Castelli on the morning of the 5th, and has since occupied the heights commanding the pass leading into Kallikrati; 6,000 insurgents are said to be at Askyfo.

C. H. D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 213.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickeon.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, July* 1, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that since my despatch of the 17th ultimo the Turco-Egyptian troops, after obstinate engagements with the insurgents, took possession of all the villages of Lasithe, which they entirely destroyed, burning and demolishing all the houses, churches, and buildings in the villages. The insurgents retreated on the mountainous positions of Critza and of the Rizo district, and the greatest portion of them retired to Messara.

After the insurgents abandoned Lassithe the Turco-Egyptian troops took possession also of Mirabello, one of the richest districts of this island, which had not been pillaged up to the present by the Turks.

The inhabitants who were remaining in the said district hastened to tender their submission to his Highness the Serdar Ekram, which he accepted, and he collected at the same time their arms. Nevertheless, before the orders of his Highness were put into execution to stop pillage the Turks had pillaged a great many villages and had even murdered many Christians who were coming to offer their submission. After the event above-mentioned his Highness, on the 19th ultimo, arrived in this town, where he remained up to the 23rd ultimo, when he left by sea for Canea.

The same day that Omer Pasha left for Canea the troops moved towards the district of Messara, where they had an engagement with the insurgents at the village Georgeri; the details, however, are unknown.

Lately, it has been reported here by some Turks that some insurgent volunteers have been landed at Psari Pharatha in the district of Rizo.

The local authorities have these days collected from the few remaining Christian inhabitants of this town their arms, and at the same time they have not allowed the attorneys of those Christians who left the island, to collect the produce of all landed properties in the environs of this town belonging to the said Christians, all such produce has been seized by the local authorities.

They continue to prevent the entrance into this town of all Christians, including women and children, who are outside the gates of this fortress.

There are some Christians arrested here by the authorities for having taken part in the insurrection, and they are constantly tormented.

Themistocles, son to Nicolo Volanaki, a relative to the late Imperial Commissioner Moustapha Pasha, continues to be always detained in prison for an accusation of murder, as I stated to you in my despatch dated the 18th of last March.

It has been, however, proved that the accusation is altogether without any foundation.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard" arrived on the 19th ultimo, and remained here for three days and then sailed for Canea.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 213.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo*, $\frac{\text{June } 19}{\text{July } 1}$, 1867.

NOTHING of any importance has transpired in this province during the last fifteen days.

On the 18th and 19th of last month, a body of insurgents, commanded by a certain Antonio Daskalaki, in approaching to a place named Adeliano, near this city, with the intention of carrying off Ottoman cattle, unexpectedly fell in with a Turkish guard; after a brief engagement, Daskalaki, the leader, was the only person killed; the Turks had two men killed and six wounded.

On the same day the insurgents carried off 100 head of cattle from Kalaski, wounding one of the Turks who had left the town to secure their property.

On the 22nd the irregulars who left with Omer Pasha for Candia returned here by sea; on nearing the port they amused themselves by discharging their rifles, this was continued until they had all landed; a stray shot wounded Mr. Darmaro's son, no redress could be obtained from the authorities. They have brought considerable booty.

The authorities are now very strict with all Christians leaving the town, not permitting any person to have more than 10 piastres in money; if more is found it is taken away from him.

The $\frac{13}{25}$th being the fête day of the Sultan everything in the town passed off quietly, but in the evening the Turks began discharging firearms, and did not cease until a late hour in the night, causing much alarm and damage to dwelling-houses.

On the $\frac{16}{28}$th an Ottoman was killed at Abelache by a Christian, and on the same day a Greek going to Rustico, accompanied by his wife, to bury his father-in-law, was murdered by some Turks, the wife being left to return to her home. Many similar acts are constantly being committed in this neighbourhood; for instance, only a few days ago in the village Kadanosa, a woman with her four children were all found murdered. There

is now no security or protection. People in the town are obliged to kept quiet in their houses, the troops even not respecting them. On the other hand, the Bishop Lambis Paissies is preparing an address of thanks to the Sultan, the authorities obliging the inhabitants to sign it, expressing their contentment, &c., with the Government, and declaring that it had always endeavoured to assist and protect the helpless during the whole time that the war has lasted.

At the village Palo, three or four hours' distance from Retimo, an Ottoman was severely wounded by one of the insurgents, the motive being that a son of Giovanni (surname unknown) belonging to the village of Valissa who had submitted, and who was his brother, had had his crops forcibly seized by the authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 214.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 22.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, July* 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on my calling upon Prince Gortchakoff on the 15th instant, after the arrival of the messenger Haworth, he said that, though he had reason to believe the recently-reported successes of Omer Pasha were much less important than they were represented to be, the Turkish reports might be accepted as correct, in order to give the Government an opportunity of ceding Candia to Greece, without any loss of honour, as a measure which would be advantageous to the Empire. He said that the Porte ought to know that, even if the insurrection has been suppressed for the present, it will break out again on the first favourable opportunity, and occasion further sacrifices and expenditure; while the state in which the war has left the island will render it an unprofitable possession for many years to come. It would surely, therefore, he said, be good policy on the part of the Turkish Government to escape from all further embarrassment by meeting the wishes of the European Powers and ceding the island to Greece.

I answered that I hoped the Turkish Government would now be disposed to grant a large measure of administrative independence to the Cretans.

No. 215.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 24.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, July* 14, 1867.

I RECEIVED yesterday, from Mr. Ellis, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, the following telegram *en clair*:—

"Dickson reports that a large number of Christian families, with provisions, are secreted in caves near Franco Castelli. They will not surrender, and will probably be sacrificed."

I immediately made the contents of this telegram known to the Grand Vizier, and urged his Highness to take every possible precaution against the occurrence of such a catastrophe as was stated to be imminent.

The Grand Vizier informed me, that the strictest orders had been already issued by the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, to spare the old men, women and children, who had taken refuge in caves. He promised, moreover, that the Porte would again send the strictest injunctions to the Serdar Ekrem to restrain his troops from all acts of cruelty, and to deal humanely and prudently with the Cretans.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 216.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Lyons.—(*Received July* 26.)

My Lord, *Athens, July* 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, giving an account of another successful voyage of the "Arkadi" to Crete.

About 130 volunteers left this the other day for Syra, whence they will be embarked for Crete. They are men of the armed bands on the frontier, who have caused so much disturbance there.

Mehemet Pasha would appear to have worked his way into the plain of Askyfo, and to be there shut in, the insurgents holding the passes. Up to the latest news, Omer Pasha had failed in attempts to come to his assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 216.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, July* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report the return here yesterday of the "Arkadi" from her nineteenth voyage to Crete.

She left Syra on Saturday the 13th at 8½ P.M., laden with provisions, ammunition, and about 250 volunteers under the officer Nicolaides, and going by Milo, arrived at 10½ P.M. of the 14th at Agia-Roumeli, where she landed all the cargo and volunteers, and took on board about 380 souls (of which some 70 are sick, wounded and distressed volunteers, and the rest women and children), and left at 1·20 A.M. of the 15th, and proceeded to Tripiti, where she found only 5 souls, but whom she also took on board; and then going by the west of Crete, passed a Turkish frigate off Akti, which seemed however to pay no attention, and returned to Syra at 5½ P.M. of the 15th.

With the returned volunteers are also three Turks, two of whom belonged to the regular troops, and were lately taken prisoners at Asfendu, and the other a Cretan youth, taken some months ago at Apocorona, since which time he had remained with the insurgents; these Turks being now free, will probably go to Constantinople, though the young man says he wishes to return to Crete.

Mr. Rodokanaki writes from Agiá-Roumeli on the 10th July, that Coroneos was fighting all day on the 9th, and finally drove the Turks back to the plain of Franco Castelli.

The returned volunteers say, that Mehemet Pasha was at Kares of Askypho plain, where he was watched by Zimbrakakis on one side, and Coroneos on the other, and that if Mehemet Pasha attempted to move, he would lose many men; also that Mitza was expected shortly to join the Sphakiotes in Sphakia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 217.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 26, 1867.

THE Greek Minister called upon me to-day and read to me a telegram he had received from the King of the Hellenes, desiring him to urge upon Her Majesty's Government in strong terms the cession of Crete by the Porte, as the sole means of terminating a war which had now lasted for nearly a year, and of preventing revolutionary agitation in Greece itself.

I informed M. Braila-Armeni that I was quite convinced, from the language held by the Turkish Government on various recent occasions, that they were not prepared to consent to the cession, unless compelled; and it was entirely contrary to the principles of Her Majesty's Government to use compulsion in a matter of this kind, even if other Governments were prepared to act with them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 218.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 30.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July* 13, 1867.

I LEARNT the day before yesterday, by an individual who had just arrived from Franco-Castelli, and whose veracity I cannot doubt, that a number of Cretan insurgent

families were concealed in a deep cave situate on a high rock not far from the Turkish head-quarters; that the locality where these people had sought refuge had been pointed out by two Cretan prisoners who, on condition of having their own lives spared, conducted thither some Bashi-Bazouks, and that having done so, these, on the contrary, soon after killed them; that Omer Pasha having summoned these refugees to surrender, the latter fired upon any person who attempted to enter the cave, and that in consequence measures were being taken to smother them. Several round shot had been fired from the iron-clad ships in the direction of the cave without effect: and it was suggested that as soon as a breach could be made into the roof of the cave, salt and sulphuric acid, and other combustible matter would be thrown in. My informant added that the refugees were provided with food and water, besides a supply of ammunition, and that having himself approached the mouth of the cave, he could hear the bleating of sheep and the crowing of cocks within.

I have felt it a duty to represent the facts of the case to Server Effendi, Acting Governor-General, and also what I considered must create a most painful sensation, no less than it would be a stigma upon the reputation of the Ottoman army, and of the Generalissimo himself. I conjured Server Effendi, and in my name, at once to dissuade Omer Pasha from having recourse to so horrible an extreme as that of suffocating so many innocent creatures; and on his Excellency's insisting that these refugees, far from being disposed to surrender, had killed and wounded several Turkish soldiers, I then ventured to intimate that they might even be blockaded. His Excellency promised to write to Omer Pasha on the subject.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard" is to proceed early to-morrow morning to Franco-Castelli. After conferring with the Admiral commanding the Turkish squadron, and, if possible, Omer Pasha himself, Lieutenant and Commander Murray will exert himself to prevent the helpless refugees from being suffocated, if such an atrocity be still in contemplation.

Omer Pasha has now a force of twelve battalions, and six more are expected to join him from Candia, through St. Vassili. His Highness was, up to the last intelligence received, still at Franco-Castelli, and holds the heights between the sea and Kallikrati.

Colonel Coroneos has assumed the chief command of the Cretan force in Sphakia. This body has just been reinforced by about 800 insurgents from Retimo Province, and headed by Captain Caracas.

All the villages about Franco-Castelli have been destroyed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—July 14.—It is asserted that the mouth of the cave in question has been walled in, but there are shafts to it which the troops have not been able to discover. Before ordering the wall to be built up, Omer Pasha sent in four zaptiehs; two were killed on the spot, the other two succeeded in dragging out an aged and infirm woman, who has since been lodged in a tent, and is being properly looked after, Omer Pasha being also desirous to elicit information from her. A number of Cretan families are said to be secreted in caves along the whole Sphakian coast. I may add that lately two Cretan prisoners on board the ironclad "Sultan Mahmoud," and as this ship was proceeding out of Suda Bay, were thrown overboard, after having been gagged. One was accused of having shot the paymaster of a Turkish ship, who had landed in Candia to buy oil.

On the 10th instant, Mehmet Pasha, with eight battalions, having entered Krapi, at last succeeded, after two days' hard skirmishing, in forcing the redoubted gorge of Askyfo. Mehmet Pasha has since been blockaded in Askyfo plain, but I presume that Omer Pasha will shortly come to his succour through Kallikrati. About 2,000 troops are still at Vrisses.

The Cretan "Provisional Government," in a circular to the Consuls dated from Mirio-Kephala, announces that, in consequence of the wholesale destruction of property and effusion of blood by the Turkish soldiery, it proposes shortly to issue letters of marque to boats, with a view to their preying upon Turkish commerce, rendering the Porte and its officers responsible for any losses that may thus accrue to trade in general.

I shall transmit a translation of this document by next mail.

C. H. D.

No. 219.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 30.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, July* 23, 1867.

THE French Chargé d'Affaires, M. Outrey, has, in obedience to instructions from this Government, pressed the Grand Vizier to appoint the Commission of Inquiry, and send it to Crete at once.

M. Outrey read, on the 20th instant, to the Grand Vizier a despatch from the Marquis de Moustier urging the appointment of the Commission, and using arguments to show that the Porte might keep the direction of its labours under its own control.

The Grand Vizier told me that the despatch did not contain any assurance respecting the sovereignty of the Sultan, nor any explanations which at all weakened the objections of the Porte to the proposed measure. It was of course impossible for him to take any step of so important a kind as that of the appointment of the Commission without the express orders of his Sovereign. The Sultan had, in consequence of a conversation which His Imperial Majesty had had with the Emperor of the French, sent orders that the question of the appointment of a Commission should be again brought before the Council of Ministers; and the Council had been unanimously of opinion that the objections to the measure remained in full force.

No. 220.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 3.)

My Lord, *Athens, July* 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch which I received this morning from Her Majesty's Consul at Canea, giving an account of the massacre of defenceless Christians in the interior of Crete. In compliance with Mr. Dickson's request, I at once sent a telegram to Lord Lyons, asking whether, under the circumstances, foreign ships might not be allowed to remove those Christian families who desire to leave the island; and I also sent your Lordship a copy of my telegram to Lord Lyons. I believe most of the foreign Ministers have received the same intelligence, and have telegraphed to their respective Embassies at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 220.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Canea, Crete, July* 21, 1867.

I CONSIDER that there is no longer any doubt that massacres and other atrocities are daily being committed by the Ottoman soldiery, especially Bashi-bozouks, on the defenceless Christian population in the interior of the island; of the firing and sacking of whole villages.

The authorities are utterly powerless to repress such outrages.

Besides at Retimo and Candia, many families are starving.

I have the honour to submit, in the event of hostilities not ceasing immediately, whether foreign ships should not be permitted to remove out of the island such Christian families who may desire to go away.

I beg leave to request you would be good enough to telegraph the above to Lord Lyons, and return to me his Excellency's reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 221.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley, August 3.)

(Telégraphique.) *Constantinople, le 1 Août*, 1867.

JE vous ai fait connaître, par mon télégramme du 27 Juillet, la vérité sur les prétendus massacres de la Crète. Les Puissances ayant néanmoins décidé d'envoyer des bâtiments de guerre dans cette île pour y recueillir des femmes et enfants, le Conseil des Ministres a pris la décision que je vous communique ci-après, en vous priant de vous énoncer dans le même sens auprès de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères.

Nous protestons énergiquement contre le télégramme par lequel les Consuls à la Canée mandent à leurs Gouvernements respectifs que des massacres de femmes et d'enfants ont éclaté dans l'intérieur de la Crète. Le Gouvernement du Sultan est prêt à punir sévèrement tout acte même isolé de cette nature, et repousse avec horreur les atrocités que la malveillance se plait à attribuer à nos troupes. Si l'insurrection a duré si longtemps, cela provient en grande partie de l'extrême ménagement que nous avons gardé vis-à-vis de la rébellion. Les Gouvernements qui, sur ce rapport—qui serait vraiment alarmant s'il était véridique—ont décidé d'envoyer des bâtiments de guerre pour recueillir les prétendues victimes errantes sur les côtes et mourant de faim, voudront bien reconnaître que nous ne saurions accepter devant l'opinion publique une tache pareille. Si, comme une des conséquences fâcheuses de l'insurrection, il y a des femmes et des enfants sans asile et sans parents, et qui voudraient quitter l'île, les autres parties de l'Empire leur sont tout à fait ouvertes ; le Gouvernement Impérial se ferait un devoir de leur accorder tous les soulagements imaginables. Il est donc impossible que la Sublime Porte puisse donner son adhésion à leur transport dans ce pays même, qui est la seule cause des malheurs dont l'île a été frappée. Cependant, la non-adhésion du Gouvernement Impérial à leur départ pour la Grèce une fois bien constatée, l'ordre de ne faire aucune difficulté à l'embarquement de ces femmes et enfants va être transmis aux autorités Impériales.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, August* 1, 1867.

BY my telegram of the 27th July I made known to you the truth respecting the pretended massacres in Crete. The Powers have, nevertheless, resolved to send men-of-war to this island to take on board women and children, the Council of Ministers has come to the decision which I communicate to you herewith, begging you to hold similar language to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

We protest loudly against the telegram by which the Consuls at Canea inform their respective Governments that massacres of women and children have broken out in the interior of Crete. The Sultan's Government is prepared to punish severely even every isolated act of this nature, and refutes with horror the atrocities which malice delights to attribute to our troops. The fact of the insurrection having lasted so long is in a great measure caused by the extreme clemency which we have exercised towards the rebels. The Governments who, in consequence of this report—which if true would really be alarming—have decided on sending men-of-war to pick up the victims pretended to be wandering on the coasts and dying of hunger, will doubtless acknowledge that it would be impossible for us to accept such a public disgrace. If, as one of the vexations results of the insurrection, there are women and children without home or relations who wish to leave the island, the other parts of the Empire are quite open to them: the Imperial Government would make it their duty to afford them every imaginable relief. It is, then, impossible that the Sublime Porte can give its consent to their being transported into the very country which is the sole cause of the misfortunes with which the island has been overwhelmed. Nevertheless, the non-consent of the Imperial Government to their departure for Greece once clearly declared, instructions not to make any difficulty to the embarkation of these women and children will be transmitted to the Imperial authorities.

No. 222.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—Received August 5.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July* 15, 1867.

WITH reference to the concluding part of my despatch of the day before yesterday, that the "Provisional Government of Crete" had addressed a circular to the Consuls,

informing the latter of their intention to issue letters of marque to privateers, for the purpose of preying upon the maritime commerce of Turkey, I have now the honour to transmit a translation of the circular in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 222.

The Provisional Government of Crete to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Mirio-Kephala, Retimo,* $\frac{\text{June 29}}{\text{July 1}}$, 1867.

IT would be superfluous to prove to eye-witnesses that the war which is being waged now for eleven months against us by the Ottoman Porte has no analogy to the wars between civilized nations. There is not a single enactment in the law of nations that is not daily violated by the commanders of the Turkish army; no distinction is either made between combatants or women, old men and children. All are indiscriminately put to the sword, and undergo torture. The dead are mutilated, and their eyes plucked out. The wounded and prisoners are slaughtered. Whole villages, corn-fields with their crops, olive-trees and vineyards, all these, the fruit and labour of generations, are ruthlessly set on fire. Churches are defiled and pulled to pieces, their images are publicly sold as booty, or (to the shame of Christendom be it said) having been bought by Jews, are by them restored to the temples of religion.

Crete, formerly so prosperous and so justly admired by travellers and strangers, is nigh being transformed into a perfect desert, and its soil is already covered with ruins and human bones.

The present war can only be compared to those by which mankind has been cursed in barbarous times.

At all events, neither can the Turks reduce us by force, nor are we able to seize the forts, even by blockading these on the land side.

Hence, the war can be prolonged indefinitely.

What formerly occurred during the seven years of the Greek War of Independence, when the Christian Powers interfered to compel the belligerents to end the struggle, shall again take place in Crete. Until then, however, the Cretans have every right to employ all the means in their power in order to oblige the enemy to carry on the war conformably with the practice of civilized nations. One of these means is the fitting out of privateers for the purpose of preying upon the maritime trade of Turkey.

For a long time have we been applied to for letters of marque, and agreeably to the deliberations held by competent men versed in international law, it would appear that from the time that Turkey, by proclaiming the blockade of the island, recognized us a belligerent Power, we are entitled to equip cruizers, which neutral nations ought equally to tolerate.

The repugnance shown by Europe to the employment of such means, as evidenced by the Treaty of Paris, is the sole reason why we have not hitherto had recourse to so extreme a measure.

Let us now see whether, since Turkey takes no heed of the principles established by civilized nations, we are not also justified in adopting such measures as would save the Cretan population, and preserve what is now left to it on earth.

We have accordingly the honour to inform you, Sir, that inasmuch as the Generalissimo of the Ottoman army continues to burn down the villages that remain to us, to fell and set fire to the trees, to root up whole vineyards, to profane our holy temples, to violate females and children; in short, to deal with us as the Tamerlanes and Genghis Khans were wont to do in the days of yore, we will, on the other hand, proceed to issue letters of marque, and to arm privateers; and if by any chance losses should accrue to commerce, the whole blame must devolve on the Ottoman Government, and on the commanders of its army.

We pray you to submit the present letter to your Government, and receive, &c.

(Signed) K. VOLUDAKIS.
A. TSIKHLIS.
M. X. ZANDRO.
M. KIRIAKIDIS.
A. MANUSSILI.
A. PAPPAYANAKIS.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.

(Signed) L. G. Loyios, *Secretary.*

No. 223.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 5.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July* 20, 1867.

ADVERTING to my report of the 6th instant, I have the honour to inclose a translation of another letter from Mr. Consular-Agent Calocherino, reporting the destruction by the Ottoman Irregulars of Armenos, Kastellon, Icomopolis Melampes villages, besides olive-trees, vineyards, corn crops, &c.; also that great misery prevails amongst the inhabitants of Retimo town, many of the latter dying from hunger.

The Vice-Consul at Candia also informs me that that province is in a deplorable condition of revolt and anarchy. The insurgents, with Mitcha at their head, who had been dislodged from the Lasethe plateau, are still in some force in the high mountains bordering on Rhizo-Kastron. Massacres of defenceless Christians continue. I inclose a copy of his report.

A battalion of Egyptian troops, as they were lately passing through the Kato-sime ravine in Rhizo district, were nearly annihilated by a band of foreign volunteers and Cretan insurgents. The six battalions under the command of Aarif Pasha, with the Irregulars commanded by Reshid Pasha, have joined at last the Generalissimo. In passing through the mountainous district of St. Vassili, these troops were harassed by straggling parties of insurgents.

Her Majesty's ship "Wizard" returned from Franco-Castelli on the morning of the 16th, having left that fort the previous evening. Lieutenant and Commander Murray reports having been courteously received by Omer Pasha, from whom he duly obtained permission previously to his ship casting anchor off Franco-Castelli. He spent three hours with the Generalissimo, whom he found alone, occupying a ruined Venetian chapel on the beach.

The large cave in which the refugees were secreted is situate about one mile from the fort. Its mouth was not built up, but a small blockhouse had been erected on each side of the entrance. Omer Pasha gave Lieutenant Murray a solemn promise that these unfortunates would not be put to death, or in any way molested. Server Effendi has since assured me that they have all surrendered, and have been liberated to the number of several hundred, principally females and children. The Pasha having invited the "Wizard" to keep near the shore on its return to Canea, in order that the officers might have an opportunity of seeing what was going on, the invitation was accepted, and, on coasting along Sphakia, a number of insurgents were seen at Thomaia, between Tripiti and Aya-Rumeli, busily engaged in carrying off packages into the mountains. No Turkish ships were present. In Kissamos district smoke was seen issuing from different quarters, being villages on fire.

Omer Pasha is still at Franco-Castelli. His army, with Mustapha and Ali Riza Pashas, crown the whole range of hills extending from above Kallikrati plain to the town of Sphakia. Mehemet Pasha is at Kares in Askyfo. A junction between the latter and Omer Pasha's army has not yet been effected.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—The "Arkadi" has been making two trips last week, to Phodeles Bay and the coast of Sphakia.

C. H. D.

July 21.—According to a letter received here this morning from the insurgent Captain Soliotis, two columns of the Ottoman army have penetrated into Askyfo—the one through Kallikrati, the other through Asfender; and hence Mehmet Pasha's division has been relieved. The whole of Askyfo and Kallikrati, with the seaboard, is now in possession of the Sultan's troops. The insurgent force in Sphakia, under Colonel Zimbrakakis, has since retreated to Anapolis and Omalos. Another strong body of insurgents, commanded by Coroneos, is in St. Vassili district.

C. H. D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 223.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, July* 15, 1867.

IN continuation of my report of the 1st instant, I have the honour to inform you that the districts of this province are in the most deplorable state of anarchy. As I stated to you in my previous despatches, the poor Christians are not allowed to come into town; and being occupied with their small harvest, after they have reaped and separated the grain from the straw, and sometimes, by way of exception, may escape from the Turks with a portion of grain sufficient to sustain their families for a few days.

Even the dead buried in the Greek cemetery near the town are not spared; the Turks dig up the corpses, strip them, and after that throw them to the dogs.

According to reliable information, it appears that Mitcha, at the head of a body of insurgents and in possession of the heights of the villages adjacent to the district of Rizo, was threatened to be driven from his position.

Instead, however, of doing this, the troops have pillaged, sacked, and burnt the villages, profaned and robbed the churches, and demolished everything. A large number of peaceful villagers, including women and children, not able to escape, have fallen victims, and been assassinated by the Turks. A great quantity of arms, ammunition, and provisions were discovered in a cavern, near the position occupied by Mitcha.

According to the last report, the Turkish troops are provisionally cantoned in the district of Messara and Pediada.

Great fears are entertained of a violent epidemic disease breaking out here, owing to the filthy state of the town and the dead which are buried in the town. Twenty to thirty persons die daily in this town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A CALOCHERINO

Inclosure 2 in No. 223.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, July* $\frac{3}{15}$, 1867.

NOTHING particular has taken place here since the 10th instant. As I wrote to you in a previous despatch, the villages Kastellon, Armenos, &c., have been destroyed.

The Turks continue robbing and destroying wherever they go. Booty is daily brought into the town, and sold by public auction, with the connivance of the authorities.

The new Pasha, with troops, proceeded to the district of St. Vassili. On the 13th instant he reached the village of Kuseliana, skirmishing lightly on the way. On the same day that he left, a body of Candiote Turks entered the town, bringing with them spoils of cattle, furniture, clothing, &c., having set fire to all the villages they passed in the Retimo province, razing the houses to the ground, not sparing the same houses in which they had lately been lodged themselves. Amongst the number of these villages is the largest one in the island, named Icomopolis Melampes. They have burnt many olive-trees, destroyed the harvest crops and vineyards, &c. Preveli is the only district that has escaped; preparations are being made to destroy this also.

The state of things in this neighbourhood is the same as when last reported by me.

There is no security whatever, all are at the mercy of any Turk who comes or goes.

The authorities continue not to allow any Christians to enter the town, or take anything out of it, even to wearing apparel.

When the insurgents carry off any cattle belonging to Turks, these seize the peaceful inhabitants, and drag them before the authorities, who put them into prison, and tyrannize over them in various ways to oblige them to confess who has taken away the stolen property, suspecting that they are accomplices with the insurgents. Six innocent men have thus been ill-treated.

Yesterday morning many Ottomans entered the village Piegee, took away the cattle, and beat several Christians, persecuting others in various ways, and conducting others before the authorities. The Government has paid no attention to the matter, for the same day they went to the village of Atzipopoulo, and killed a Christian who was carrying water. Not a day passes without similar outrages being committed. The authorities appear to encourage these acts.

The poor Christians at present in the town suffer more than ever, the Commission

doing nothing for them as it had promised, and many sick dying from hunger, as they cannot find work even to get bread. If they ask to leave the island, they are not allowed to do so. Should this state of affairs continue much longer, they will all be lost.

Twelve okes of flour have been given to each person instead of forty-five, as promised by the Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 224.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 5.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, July 31, 1867.*

I HAVE had some conversation with Prince Gortchakoff, when he read a telegram from General Ignatieff, stating that the Consuls in Candia, including Her Majesty's Consul, having forwarded a telegram to Athens, reporting that a massacre of women and children had begun in the interior, he had instructed two Russian vessels of war to cruize round the coasts of the island, and to take measures for the safety of non-combatants; and that Aali Pasha had promised to desire the local authorities not to interfere with any measures which the commanders of these vessels might adopt for mere objects of humanity. Prince Gortchakoff told me at the same time that the Prussian and Italian Governments had agreed to co-operate with Russia and France in the measures of "sauvetage" about to be taken, and on my asking if I had rightly understood him to say that the local authorities would be instructed to permit the proposed intervention of foreign vessels of war, he replied in the affirmative; adding, however, that no opposition would prevent its being carried out, for the officers were ordered to resist any which might be offered ("passer outre"),—an incident, I observed, which, if it occurred, might be considered an act of war, and which a Christian Power would certainly in its own case treat as such. I also said that whatever other Powers might think right I had reason to believe that Her Majesty's Government would not be induced to deny to Turkey what is due to an independent State, and that if it were true that the insurrection had been repressed, the Cretan peasantry would not suffer from farther measures of coercion; to which his Excellency rejoined, that the insurrection being suppressed was not certain, but it was evident that Omer Pasha was endeavouring to effect that object by suppressing ("en supprimant") the population, and it was impossible that Europe should look patiently on the atrocities which his troops were perpetrating.

No. 225.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 6.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, July 23, 1867.*

THE French Chargé d'Affaires has called to inform me that having received instructions from his Government to despatch vessels to Crete for the purpose of removing homeless victims of the war, whenever it should be advisable, he deemed the last advices from the French Consul at Canea (inclosed herewith in copy) to be such as to oblige him to use the discretionary power placed in his hands. On the receipt of this despatch he immediately concerted measures with the Russian Ambassador, who was provided in advance with corresponding instructions, and they both sent late on the 26th identical instructions by telegraph to their respective naval officers in the Mediterranean.

Those of M. Outrey were addressed, through the French Legation at Athens, to Admiral Simon, at the Piræus, and were to the effect that the reports from M. Tricon were so harrowing as regards the state of women and children expelled from their homes and wandering on the coast, a prey to hunger and ill-treatment, that he felt called upon, in virtue of instructions from Paris, to request the Admiral to proceed to the Cretan waters in order to save the victims who might be wandering on the coast, and to convey them to Greece. On the next day M. Outrey notified this act by an unofficial letter to the Grand Vizier (copy of which is inclosed).

M. Outrey read to me his instructions to M. Tricon, enjoining that functionary to take care that the purely philanthropic mission of Admiral Simon shall not degenerate into a political intervention.

My answer to M. Outrey was that I would communicate these facts to Her Majesty's

Government, and that my own news from Crete, though certainly gloomy, were much less so than his.

Mr. Consul Dickson has addressed, through Athens, a despatch to this Embassy which has also been telegraphed to your Lordship by Mr. Ellis on the 25th, reporting "massacres and atrocities on Christians," and asking whether, if hostilities do not immediately cease, foreign ships might not be permitted to remove Christian families. This telegram presents some discrepancy from that which reached the French Embassy, and which, according to M. Tricon's statement, had been signed by Mr. Dickson.

The Italian Envoy has since joined in sending for ships of war to Crete, for the purpose above related.

Safvet Pasha views this measure as one certain to revive the drooping spirits of the insurgents. His Excellency informs me that the attitude taken by this Government is one of passive opposition especially directed against the removal of the people to Greece. A telegram has been despatched to Turkish Representatives abroad "protesting against the telegram of the Consuls at Canea," which reported massacres of women and children. The Government was ready to punish severely any such acts, and repudiated the charges levelled at His Majesty's troops. If the rebellion had lasted so long, it was, in a great measure, due to the extreme leniency of the Government in dealing with it. If there were any houseless wanderers who wanted to quit the island, all the ports of the Empire were open to them. The Government cannot consent to their removal to a country which has been the sole cause of the miseries of the island. The authorities have received orders to place no difficulties in the way of the embarkation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. T. BARRON.

P.S.—I have intimated to Mr. Consul Dickson, in answer to his query through Athens, that this Government still entertains the same objection to the employment of foreign vessels of war for the removal of non-combatants.

H. P. B.

Inclosure 1 in No. 225.

M. Outrey to Aali Pasha.

Altesse, *Therapia, ce 26 Juillet*, 1867.

LE Consul de France à la Canée me transmet la dépêche télégraphique suivante :—

"Des massacres de femmes et d'enfants ont éclaté dans l'intérieur de l'Ile. L'autorité ne peut ni réprimer l'insurrection ni arrêter le cours de ces atrocités. L'humanité réclamerait impérieusement la suspension immédiate des hostilités ou le transport en Grèce des femmes et des enfants."

Les Consuls d'Angleterre, de Russie, et de l'Italie ont adressé des télégrammes identiques à leurs Gouvernements respectifs.

Devant de pareils actes, que la Porte ne peut que réprouver, et en vertu des ordres que j'ai reçus de mon Gouvernement je m'empresse de faire savoir à votre Excellence que je prescris à M. l'Amiral Simon de se rendre dans les eaux de la Crète avec les bâtiments placés sous ses ordres pour recueillir et transporter en Grèce toutes les femmes et les enfants qui errent sur les côtes mourant de faim et en butte à d'affreux traitements. La mission de M. l'Amiral Simon n'ayant aucun caractère politique ne saurait, je me plais à le croire, rencontrer aucune difficulté de la part des autorités Ottomanes, et je demande à votre Altesse de vouloir bien prescrire à son Altesse Omer Pacha de prêter tout son concours à une œuvre d'humanité.

(Translation.)

Your Highness, *Therapia, July 26*, 1867.

THE French Consul at Canea transmits me the following telegraphic despatch :—

"Massacres of women and children have broken out in the interior of the island. The authorities can neither put down the insurrection nor stay the course of these atrocities. Humanity would imperatively demand the immediate suspension of hostilities, or the transportation to Greece of the women and children."

The English, Russian, and Italian Consuls have addressed identical telegrams to their respective Governments.

In the face of such acts, which the Porte can only reprove, and in virtue of the

orders which I have received from my Government I hasten to make known to your Excellency that I instructed Admiral Simon to sail for Cretan waters with the vessels at his disposal to pick up and convey to Greece all the women and children who are wandering on the coast dying with hunger and exposed to dreadful treatment. The mission of Admiral Simon having no political character cannot, I imagine, meet with any difficulty from the Ottoman authorities, and I beg your Highness to have the goodness to instruct his Highness Omer Pasha to lend all his sympathy to a work of humanity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 225.

M. Tricon to M. Outrey.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *La Canée, le* 21 *Juillet*, 1867.

LA situation s'aggrave tous les jours. J'ai eu l'honneur de vous signaler les déplorables excès qui ont été commis dans le district de Kissamos ; j'apprends aujourd'hui que des massacres ont éclaté dans la partie orientale du pays.

Depuis un mois des meurtres isolés avaient lieu journellement dans les environs de la ville de Candie ; les indigènes Musulmans couraient la campagne et se livraient aux plus tristes méfaits dans les villages Chrétiens. Ils regagnaient la ville à la suite de ces barbares expéditions, et les portes s'ouvraient devant eux pour laisser passer leurs sanglantes trophées. Je m'étais plaint vivement à l'autorité locale, mais toutes mes représentations étaient restées sans effet. Enhardis par l'impunité, les bachi-bozouks se répandirent les 12 et 13 de ce mois dans le district de Rigo et massacrèrent les femmes et les enfants. Pour se venger les insurgés enlevèrent une jeune fille Turque, dont ils tuèrent le père. Le Gouvernement de Candie, qui a interdit depuis longtemps aux Chrétiens l'entrée de la ville, comptait sans doute que ces atrocités resteraient ensevelies dans le silence. Il laissa faire, et les irréguliers purent assouvir tout à leur aise leur férocité.

Le 17, ils envahissent les villages d'Huméri, d'Alcolohuri, d'Ajes Parasches, de Shilus, et un grand nombre de villages du district de Pédiada, égorgeant les villageois paisibles et sans défense, les vieillards, les femmes et les enfants. Les Agents Consulaires de Candie se réunissent, veulent envoyer leurs drogmans sur les lieux ; mais le Gouverneur s'y oppose, et le carnage continue.

Ces nouvelles lamentables ont vivement ému le Corps Consulaire. Dès que j'en ai eu connaissance je me suis rendu chez le Commissaire Impérial, que j'ai trouvé, je dois le dire, profondément affligé, mais accablé par le sentiment de son impuissance. Il n'essaie plus de nier le mal, mais il se sent incapable d'en arrêter les progrès. De tous les points de l'île nous parviennent les bruits les plus sinistres. Les femmes et les enfants errent sur les côtes, mourant de faim, et en butte aux plus horribles traitements. Je suis en mesure de vous affirmer, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, que trois jeunes officiers Turcs, témoins des barbaries qui ont eu lieu à Kissamos, ont donné leur démission pour ne point présider à de pareilles boucheries.

En présence d'une situation aussi grave, nous avons pensé, mon collègue d'Angleterre et moi, qu'il était de notre devoir de prévenir nos Gouvernements respectifs par la voie la plus prompte. Nous avons rédigé en conséquence la dépêche télégraphique suivante que nous expédions aujourd'hui au Pirée pour être transmise à Constantinople, ainsi qu'aux Cabinets de Londres et de Paris :—

"Des massacres de femmes et d'enfants ont éclaté dans l'intérieur de l'île. L'autorité ne peut ni réprimer l'insurrection ni arrêter le cours de ces atrocités. L'humanité réclamerait impérieusement la suspension immédiate des hostilités, ou le transport en Grèce des femmes et des enfants."

Les Consuls de Russie et d'Italie adressent un télégramme identique à Pétersbourg et à Florence.

On ne saurait se dissimuler, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, que de l'impuissance les Turcs ont passé à la fureur, et de la fureur à l'extermination. Je n'hésite pas à dire que si cette lutte stérile devait se prolonger encore, les femmes et les enfants n'auraient d'autre refuge que dans l'exil ou dans la mort.

Omer Pacha poursuit son expédition de Sfakia. L'on assure qu'il aurait opéré sa jonction avec le corps de Méhémet Pacha, qui serait complètement dégagé. Il serait fort à desirer que le Serdar se rendit maître de cette position le plus tôt possible : l'insurrection n'en serait guère affaiblie, il est vrai, mais ce succès déciderait peut-être la Porte à ordonner la suspension des hostilités.

L'aviso de la Marine Impériale le "Prométhée," qui est venu relever la "Salamandre," a mouillé le 17 en rade de la Canée.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) TRICON.

(Translation.)

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *Canea, July* 21, 1867.

THE situation grows daily worse. I have had the honour of notifying to you the deplorable excesses which have been committed in the district of Kissamos; to-day I learn that massacres have broken out in the eastern part of the country.

For the last month isolated murders took place daily in the neighbourhood of the town of Candia; the native Mussulmans overran the country and abandoned themselves to the saddest iniquities in the Christian villages. These barbarous expeditions over, they would return to the town, and the gates opened before them to give passage to their bloody trophies. I had made strong complaints to the local authorities, but all my representations had remained without effect. Emboldened by impunity, the Bashi-bozouks on the 12th and 13th of this month spread themselves over the district of Rizo and massacred women and children. To revenge themselves the insurgents carried off a young Turkish girl and killed her father. The Candian Government, which has for a long time forbidden Christians to enter the town, doubtless counted upon these atrocities remaining buried in silence. They let them go on, and the Irregulars could glut their ferocity entirely as they pleased.

On the 17th, they invaded the villages of Huméri, Alcolohuri, Ajes Parasches, Shilus, and a great number of the villages of the district of Pediada, murdering the peaceable and defenceless villagers, old men, women, and children. The Consular Agents of Candia unite, and wish to send their Dragomans to the places; but the Governor opposes this, and the carnage continues.

These sad tidings have deeply moved the Consular Body. As soon as I had been informed of them I went to the Imperial Commissioner, whom I found, I must say, deeply afflicted, but overwhelmed with the feeling of his impotence. He no longer attempts to deny the evil, but he feels himself incapable of staying its progress. From all parts of the island the most sinister reports reach us. Women and children wander along the shore, dying of hunger and exposed to the most horrible treatment. I am in a position to inform you, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, that three young Turkish officers, witnesses of the barbarities which have taken place at Kissamos, have given in their resignation, to avoid presiding over such butcheries.

In so serious a situation, my English colleague and I thought it our duty to inform our respective Governments in the promptest manner. We consequently drew up the following telegraphic despatch which we sent this day to the Piræus to be transmitted to Constantinople, as well as to the Cabinets of London and Paris:—

"Massacres of women and children have broken out in the interior of the island. The authorities can neither put down the insurrection nor stay the course of these atrocities. Humanity would imperatively demand the immediate suspension of hostilities, or the transportation to Greece of the women and children."

The Russian and Italian Consuls address an identical telegram to St. Petersburgh and Florence.

We cannot, M. le Chargé d'Affaires, remain blind to the fact that from impotence the Turks passed to fury, and from fury to extermination. I do not hesitate to say that if this useless struggle were to be prolonged, the women and children would have no refuge but exile or death.

Omer Pasha continues his expedition of Sfakia. It is asserted that he has effected his junction with the corps of Mehemet Pasha, which is said to be entirely free. It would be very desirable that the Serdar should make himself master of this position as soon as possible; it is true that the insurrection would be scarcely weakened by it, but this success might perhaps induce the Porte to order a suspension of hostilities.

The aviso of the Imperial navy, the "Prometheus," which has come to relieve the "Salamander," anchored on the 17th in the harbour of Canea.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) TRICON.

No. 226.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 9.)

(Extract.) *Vienna, July* 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that when Baron Beust recommended Fuad Pasha to bear in mind the possible advantage to the peace of Europe of establishing an *enquête* into the affairs of Crete, as a means of getting out of the present difficulty and gaining time, the Turkish Minister said that he should be less indisposed to the measure if he could obtain a joint guarantee of the integrity of Turkey from the great Powers; but that he was perpetually told of the desire of the French and Russian Governments to see Crete annexed to Greece, and that Turkey was not prepared to make any such cession of territory.

No. 227.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 10.)

My Lord, *Athens, July* 31, 1867.

THE Russian Commodore on the Mediterranean station, Captain Boutakoff, came into the Piræus on the 29th of this month from Crete, and in a conversation which I had with him, he told me that he had seen Omer Pasha, and had urged him to allow of his taking away some of the Cretan families who had taken refuge in caves in the Sfakia district. The Pasha refused to give him permission, and said that even had he received an order from the Porte to that effect, he would not have allowed it until he had protested at Constantinople against a step which he was convinced would serve but to prolong the struggle.

Omer Pasha, he told me, was in the flag-ship coasting about Sfakia and the adjoining country, and directing the movements of the greatest part of his fleet and a large body of men. His plan of operations, he stated to Captain Boutakoff, was to blockade this coast line, and to run a cordon round the Sfakia and neighbouring districts, and by this means to force the larger number of armed insurgents and of people who are congregated there to submit. Captain Boutakoff does not believe that Omer Pasha can possibly prevent access to the insurgents, nor that he can stop their escape into another part of the country; and he told me that, from all that he has seen, his opinion was that Omer Pasha has made no progress in reducing the insurrection, and has merely succeeded, with great cruelty, in wasting and devastating nearly the whole island. He left this to-day, and has returned to Crete in order to watch events.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

No. 228.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 10.)

My Lord, *Athens, August* 1, 1867.

THE French Admiral having received instructions from Paris to go to Crete, to bring away families from that island, left the Piræus on the 26th ultimo, and returned this morning accompanied by another French boat. They brought about 900 Cretans, and a Russian boat coming from Cronstadt came into the port at the same time with over 600 Cretans.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, giving an account of the last voyage of the "Arkadi," and of the account published in Athens containing the latest news from Crete.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 228.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, July* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the "Arkadi" left Syra, on Saturday, the 27th instant, at half-past 5 P.M., laden with the usual cargo of ammunition and provisions, and 280 volunteers; and going by Cerigo, went to Suja Bay, where she arrived at half-past 9 P.M. on the 28th; and there, according to my informant, she landed the whole of her cargo and volunteers, except 300 bags of flour belonging to the American Dr. Howe, there being no agent there to receive them, and took on board 130 women and children, and ten wounded and distressed volunteers; that it was said at Syra, the Turkish vessels had bombarded the coast only three days previously, and thus the families had all returned again to the interior, otherwise the "Arkadi" would have brought away many more; also that Omer Pasha, after having bombarded Agia-Roumeli for many hours with eight or ten vessels, had landed troops there, and occupied the sea-coast; that the Cretans had retired to the interior, having taken their provisions, &c., except about 200 boxes of cartridges which they destroyed, not being able to carry them away; also that all the south coast of Selino appeared on fire, the flames being seen from the "Arkadi." The "Arkadi" returned the way she went, and arrived here at 4 P.M. of the 29th instant, without meeting any Turkish cruizer either way.

According to another informant, the "Arkadi" tried first to land at Agia-Roumeli, but found too many Turkish vessels there to attempt it, and thence went to Suja, that there biscuit only was discharged, and all the rest brought back; the flash of the guns of the Turkish vessels being seen and the report heard all the time the "Arkadi" was at Suja; that independent of the general burning of villages and trees, all along the coast of Selino there seemed to be watch-fires kept up as well, and an opinion has been expressed that it is the intention of Omer Pasha to extirpate entirely the Christian element in the remaining population of Crete.

I understand the "Arkadi" will start again to-morrow evening for Crete.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD

Inclosure 2 in No. 228.

Bulletin of the Central Cretan Committee.

Athènes, le $\frac{19}{31}$ *Juillet*, 1867.

LE courrier de Candie nous apporte des nouvelles très-intéressantes.

Indépendamment de M. Boudakof, Commandant de l'escadre Russe, dans les eaux de Candie, l'Amiral de l'escadre Française, M. Simon, arrivait, dans la matinée de Samedi dernier, à la Canée, pour recueillir des femmes, des enfants et des vieillards, et les transporter en Grèce; en effet, malgré les observations de Server Effendi, il fit voile, le même jour, vers les provinces occidentales, pour commencer, par là, son acte généreux d'humanité.

Quelque difficile que soit le sauvetage de ces êtres infortunés, puisque, sur les côtes, ils sont mitraillés par les canons des frégates Turques, et que, dans les plaines, ils sont à la merci de la soldatesque Musulmane, ce qui les force de se réfugier dans les montagnes, il est pourtant à espérer qu'un grand nombre d'entre eux pourront être soustraits au fer exterminateur des Turcs: car l'Amiral Français se propose de cotoyer l'île en s'arrêtant en différents endroits, où il y a probabilité de recueillir des familles, qui ne tarderont pas d'arriver si elles trouvent le moyen d'échapper aux poursuites de leurs ennemis.

Server Effendi, fort mécontent de la note identique, au sujet des massacres, expédiée par les Consuls à leurs Gouvernements respectifs, envoya à Héraclion un employé pour instruire l'affaire et agir de manière à faire révoquer le télégramme.

Cet employé, de retour, fit son rapport, par lequel naturellement les massacres furent complètement démentis.

Mais les Consuls ne s'y laissèrent point prendre, car ils savaient bien ce qu'il faut accorder de foi à ces sortes d'instructions, faits sous l'influence de la terreur et de la violence, et où toute sorte de corruption est employée. (Les autorités Turques cherchèrent, à Héraclion, à gagner le drogman Français, et n'ayant pu y réussir, ils le menacèrent.)

S'il était possible de procéder à une instruction impartiale, on verrait que les cruautés dénoncées par le télégramme identique sont même bien au-dessous de la réalité.

Ali Berri Pacha, le Chef de l'armée Turque de Kissamos, a dit à des paysans Crétois

qu'ils pourraient se rendre à la Canée, pour se procurer des provisions de bouche, mais qu'ils doivent se bien garder de faire mention, à qui que ce soit, des actes commis par son armée.

Ali Sarchos Pacha vient d'arriver malade à la Canée pour se soigner.

Quant à ce qui concerne les opérations militaires, nous apprenons, qu'après la retraite de M. Zimbrakaki du plateau d'Askyfon, la nombreuse armée Turque occupa aussi le village d'Anopolis tandis que les Chrétiens occupèrent les positions d'Aradéna, où, pendant trois jours et trois nuits consécutifs ($\frac{1}{2}\frac{0}{2}$ au $\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{5}$ Juillet) ils repoussèrent avec acharnement les attaques réitérées de l'ennemi, et lui firent éprouver des pertes considérables; ce qui le força de battre en retraite.

Les Turcs alors, déçus dans leur espoir d'enlever ces positions aux Chrétiens, en les attaquant de ce point-là seulement débarquèrent à Dialiskeri 2,000 hommes, qui, joints à 4,000 autres qui s'y trouvaient, parvinrent, protégés par les canons de la flotte Ottomane, après un combat de toute une journée, à occuper, vers le coucher du soleil, une hauteur, par laquelle ils attaquaient le flanc des Chrétiens; ceux-ci se replièrent alors sur des hauteurs un peu plus éloignées.

Le $\frac{1}{2}\frac{0}{2}$ du mois courant, l'ennemi essaya de s'emparer aussi du village de Mouri, pour le détruire : mais, repoussé par un corps d'insurgés, il fut poursuivi jusqu'au rivage.

L'armée Turque qui se trouve à Sfakia, forte de 30,000 hommes et combattant avec 3,000 Chrétiens à peine, n'a pu avancer que très lentement et avec de grandes pertes.

Aussi jusqu'aujourd'hui les insurgés sont maîtres de la Province de Sfakia, et si les Turcs parvenaient à les faire reculer, ils ne pourraient le faire qu'avec des pertes bien considérables; du reste, malgré les sacrifices énormes qu'ils font, l'avantage qu'ils en retirent est bien minime ou plutôt nul; car ils ne sont pas en état de se maintenir dans les positions qu'ils enlèvent aux Chrétiens. En effet, nous apprenons, et Server Effendi lui-même en convient, que les Turcs ont abandonné déjà le plateau d'Askifon, dont ils devinrent maîtres en sacrifiant tant d'hommes, Méhémet Pacha était de retour à Apocorona, et Rechid Pacha se dirigeait sur Réthymne, par le Callicrati. Ainsi l'armée Turque bientôt quitter définitivement Sfakia, où elle ne peut point se maintenir.

L'escadre Ottomane a canonné, depuis le $\frac{1}{2}\frac{0}{2}$ jusqu'au $\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{5}$ Juillet, Ste. Roumélie, sur la plage de laquelle il a fait débarquer une armée considérable, mais qui n'a point pu pénétrer dans cette position.

Dans les provinces orientales les insurgés font toujours des progrès, malgré les assertions contraires d'Omer Pacha.

Ils campèrent à Karouna et à St. Myron, après s'être emparé des villages de Keramoutzi, Petroképhalo, et Pentamodi.

Ainsi les Turcs commencent à comprendre qu'il ne leur est pas possible de se rendre maîtres de l'insurrection, qui tend à se perpétuer.

(Translation.)

Athens, July $\frac{1}{3}\frac{9}{1}$, 1867.

THE courier from Candia brings us very interesting news.

Independently of M. Boudakoff, Commander of the Russian squadron in Candian waters, M. Simon, the Admiral of the French fleet, arrived on the morning of last Saturday at Canea, to take on board women, children, and old men, and take them across to Greece; in fact, notwithstanding the observations of Server Effendi, he sailed the same day for the Western Provinces, to begin his generous act of humanity in those parts.

Difficult though it be to save these unfortunate beings (for, on the coasts, they are shelled by the guns of the Turkish frigates, and, in the plains, are at the mercy of the Mussulman soldiery, which forces them to take refuge in the mountains), it is nevertheless to be hoped that a large number of them will be saved from the exterminating swords of the Turks; for the French Admiral proposes to coast along the island, stopping at different places where there is a probability of picking up families, who will not hesitate to come down if they find means of escaping the pursuit of their enemies.

Server Effendi, very much displeased at the identic note sent by the Consuls to their respective Governments on the subject of the massacres, sent an officer to Heraclion to investigate the matter, and to act in such a way as to cause the recall of the telegram.

This officer, on his return, made his Report, in which the massacres were of course totally denied.

But the Consuls did not allow themselves to be caught, for they knew well how far to believe in such kinds of investigations, made under the influence of fear and violence, and in which every sort of corruption is employed. (The Turkish authorities at

Heraclion sought to win over the French dragoman, and failing in this, they threatened him.)

If it were possible to proceed to an impartial investigation, it would be seen that even the cruelties denounced in the identic telegram are far below what were actually perpetrated.

Ali Berri Pasha, the Turkish Commandant at Kissamos, told the Cretan peasants that they might go to Canea to procure provisions, but they must take good care not to mention to any one whatever the acts committed by his army.

Ali Sarchos Pasha has just come to Canea, in ill health, to recruit himself.

With reference to military operations, we learn that after the retreat of M. Zimbrakaki from the table-land of Askyfos, the numerous Turkish army took possession of it, with the village of Anopolis, whilst the Christians occupied the positions of Aradéna, where during three consecutive days and nights (July $\frac{10}{22}$ to $\frac{13}{25}$), they repulsed with slaughter the repeated attacks of the enemy, and caused them to suffer considerable losses, which obliged them to retreat.

The Turks, disappointed in the hope of carrying the position of the Christians by attacking them from that point only, disembarked 2,000 men, who, in conjunction with the 4,000 already there, succeeded, under cover of the fire of the Ottoman fleet, and after fighting all day, in carrying a hill, about sunset, from which they attacked the Christians in flank. The latter then fell back on some heights a little further off.

On the $\frac{10\text{th}}{22\text{nd}}$ instant the enemy attempted to gain possession of the village of Mouri, to destroy it, but was repulsed by a body of insurgents, and pursued to the water's edge.

The Turkish army now at Sfakia, 30,000 strong, and opposed by scarcely 3,000 Christians, has only been able to advance very slowly, and with great loss.

Also up to to-day the insurgents continue to be masters of the Province of Sfakia, and if the Turks succeeded in forcing them to retire, they could only do so with considerable loss; besides, in spite of the enormous sacrifices which they make, the advantage they gain by them is very insignificant, or rather nothing at all; for they are not in a condition to hold the positions they take from the Christians. In fact, we learn, and Servir Effendi himself allows, that the Turks have already abandoned the plateau of Askyfos, which they gained possession of with such a sacrifice of men; Mehemet Pasha had returned to Apocorona, and Reshid Pasha was marching on Retimo by Callicrati. Thus the Turkish army will soon leave Sfakia, where it cannot hold its position definitively.

The Ottoman squadron bombarded St. Roumélie, from the $\frac{16\text{th}}{22\text{nd}}$ to the $\frac{13\text{th}}{25\text{th}}$ July, having disembarked on the beach a considerable army which was not able to penetrate into that position.

In the Eastern Provinces the insurgents progress steadily, in spite of Omer Pasha's asserting the contrary.

They encamped at Karouna and at St. Myron, after taking possession of the villages of Keramoutzi, Petrokephalo, and Pentamodi.

Thus the Turks begin to understand that it is not possible for them to master the insurrection, which seems likely to be prolonged.

No. 229.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 11.)

My Lord, *Athens, August* 3, 1867.

I HAD a conversation yesterday with the French Admiral who, as I had the honour to inform your Lordship, returned here from Crete on Thursday bringing with him Cretan families. He told me that when he showed Omer Pasha the orders which he had received from Paris, the Pasha said he would not prevent his taking away Cretan families, but that the Admiral must take the responsibility of doing so. He said the people were very anxious to be taken away, and that the rush made on his boats was so great that he had much difficulty in keeping order and avoiding accidents. He brought as many as he could carry, and the gun-boat which accompanied him, and also a Russian transport, brought away families, and he estimates the whole amount at rather over 1,300 souls.

During the voyage from Crete, the Admiral questioned, through his interpreters, the Cretans whom he had on board, and who were mostly women, as to whether they had ever witnessed any cruelty committed by the Turks. They all answered that they had ot seen any act of cruelty committed, but that people had very often told them that

such things had taken place and that they believed in the truth of such statements. He seemed to think that though there must be much cruelty in a war like the one now being carried on in Crete, and particularly with such savage troops as the Bashi-Bazooks, the accounts received from Crete are much exaggerated; and I may add that the reports from Russian sources are of so incredible a nature that I have never thought myself justified in reporting them to your Lordship.

I asked the Admiral whether he thought that Omer Pasha was likely before long to suppress the insurrection, and he said he had not seen enough of the country to form an opinion, but that Omer Pasha was very sanguine.

The Russian gun-boat "Mercury" arrived at the Piræus last night and is said to have brought 500 souls from Crete. She went on shore in coming into the port. She has, however, been got off and the families landed. An Italian gun-boat has also come in, it is said, with 281 Cretans.

I regret to say that the English fund for the Cretan refugees is now exhausted, and that it will throw on the Greek Government the expense of providing for from 4,000 to 5,000 persons. Another fund called the "Ladies' Fund" is nearly in the same state. The number of refugees, including the children, is believed to be over 20,000, and should the foreign ships continue to pour them into the country this number may be increased by 10,000. Should the number amount to 30,000 souls, at the lowest calculation, the daily expense which would fall on the Government would be 540*l.* per diem, a sum which it would be difficult for the Government to find; and, even with the present number, they could hardly have found means for feeding and lodging the families had not the peasants and people of the country come forward and taken them into their houses.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. W. ELLIS.

No. 230.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 12.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, July 26, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Candia, marked No. 1, reporting that, in consequence of a band of insurgents having killed some Mussulmans and made others prisoners at Rhizo, the Cretan Turks had massacred at Pediada, on the 17th instant, a large number of Christians; that the French and Russian Vice-Consuls had, along with Mr. Calocherino, proposed to the Lieutenant-Governor of Candia to send their dragomans, accompanied by policemen, to ascertain on the spot the real truth of the statement; but that their request had not been attended to.

In the accompanying translation, marked No. 2, of a report from the Consular Agent at Retimo, your Lordship will find particulars of a foray made by the Turkish soldiery upon the villages Atsipopoulo, Priné, Vederan, Metakhio, Frantseskiana, and the inability and apparent reluctance of the authorities to do justice, and thus prevent similar outrages from being repeated.

I myself have repeatedly urged on Server Effendi, as I did with his predecessors, the expediency of disarming and disbanding the Cretan Bashi-Bazouks; for by doing so I consider that the island would be spared further devastation, and these barbarous and fanatical mercenaries prevented from perpetrating their wonted misdeeds, while the Imperial authorities would be relieved from a serious charge in their mode of conducting the war. Server Effendi replied that he was desirous of effecting this wholesome measure, but that it could only be done by degrees and with great tact and caution on the part of the Government.

The brutalities lately committed on Christian women and children defy description.

On the 12th instant, the "Provisional Government of Crete" having appealed to Commodore Boutakoff to proceed to Sphakia to remove the suffering families, and reports daily reaching this town of the atrocities that are being carried on in the interior, the Russian Consul-General despatched, the day before yesterday, the Russian corvette "Mercury" and gun-boat "Bombari" to Omer Pasha; Commodore Boutakoff being bearer of a telegram from the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, and identical [to one from the French Embassy to the French Consul here, to the effect that the Grand Vizier had authorized the removal of suffering Cretan families on board French and Russian ships. The two ships have just returned from Sphakia.

According to the Commodore's account, a Turkish steamer and an iron-clad were bombarding the heights above Agia-Rumeli, the shore being occupied by troops. A village on the mountains was on fire. Omer Pasha was on board Bessim Pasha's flag-

ship off Agia Rumeli. On the Russian Commodore presenting the Ambassador's telegram, the Serdar replied that he himself had received no such order, and, even if he had, he could not comply with it. I inclose a translation of the requisition made to Commodore Boutakoff, as per No. 3.

On the 21st instant I addressed to Lord Lyons, through Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens, a telegram, of which No. 4 is a copy, requesting to be instructed whether foreign ships should not be permitted to remove out of the island such suffering Cretan families as are desirous of going away. My colleagues of France, Russia, and Italy have also telegraphed in this sense to their respective Ambassadors.

Ali Berri (Circassian) Pasha arrived here yesterday from Kissamos overland, that district being under his command. His visit has probably reference to an expedition to Omalos.

The "Arkadi" having made another successful trip to Agia-Rumeli on the 20th instant, transported thence to Syra upwards of 1,000 souls.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—July 28. The French frigate "La Renommée" having on board Rear-Admiral Simon, followed by the tender "La Sentinelle," arrived here yesterday morning from the Piræus. The French Admiral communicated to Server Effendi a telegram he had received from the Emperor Napoleon, dated Paris, 21st instant, ordering the former immediately to proceed to this island to pick up old men, females, and children, wherever they are to be found, and then convey them to Greece. Server Effendi requested the Admiral to see the Generalissimo; this invitation was however declined and "La Renommée," the despatch-boat "Le Promethée," and the Russian gun-boat "Bombori," steamed directly for Sphinari Bay last night.

Admiral Simon has taken home two Cretans as interpreters.

Askyfo has been evacuated by the Turkish troops, and Mehmet Pasha has countermarched to Vrisses.

Reshid Pasha's division has left Sfakia and is marching back to Candia.

Omer Pasha having occupied Aya-Yannis, in Rumeli glen, is endeavouring to force his advance on Samaria.

I have much pleasure in confirming the statement that the refugees to the number of some 250, released from the cave at Franco-Castello through the exertions of Lieutenant Murray, are all being properly cared for by Omer Pasha in the villages near that fort. Two priests included in the number are on board the "Osmanieh," and in every respect well treated.

C. H. D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 230.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, July* 18, 1867.

I REGRET to have to report to you that after the assassinations committed by the Turks at the district of Rizo, as I stated to you in my despateh of the 15th, insurgents have killed some Turks and have taken prisoners some of them in the district of Pediada, and to-day it is stated by many Mussulmans who came into town from Pediada, that in the said district the Turks massacred yesterday a large number of Christians, including women and children.

My colleague the French Vice-Consul having proposed to me, as well as to the other Consular Agents here, to call at the Acting Kaimakam's and ask him if the above afflicting reports are really exact, we have seen his Excellency and have been assured by him that he has heard of said reports, and that he sent to Pediada a certain Bairam Effendi, President of the Tidjaret, to inquire about the said atrocities. For the assassinations, however, committed at Rizo, it seems that no measures whatever were taken by his Excellency, and we before leaving asked his Excellency the favour to afford the assistance of some zaptiehs (policemen), in order to accompany our dragomans to be sent to Pediada, and so to be able to obtain a true and exact report of all that has taken place in that district. His Excellency, however, declined the favour, and so we did not send our dragomans there, and consequently I am not able to give you for the present any details on these sorrowful reports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 230.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, July* $\frac{6}{18}$, 1867.

IN my last letter I stated that certain Turks had come into this town from Candia with a considerable quantity of booty. After disposing of this plunder by public auction, these Turks, together with a party of Retimo Mussulmans, having issued from this town on the $\frac{2nd}{14th}$ instant and the day following, proceeded towards some peaceable villages, namely, Atzipopoulo, Priné, Vederan, Metakhio, Frantseskianà, and surrounded them. The Christian inhabitants, on perceiving this, retired into their houses, and soon after the Turks entered by force, and set to plundering everything they could find. They endeavoured to violate the females and children, and after stripping them, left them stark naked. Some have been murdered in their houses. They levied a contribution of 700 piastres, and in extorting this amount they put the muzzles of their muskets to the mouths of their victims. In this manner, two women have been wounded.

The following day the inhabitants of these villages came into town to lay their complaints before the authorities; but instead of listening to them, and compelling the offenders to restore the stolen property, the authorities appeared utterly impassive, and paid only attention to what the delinquents had to say.

These assert that they intend massacring all the Christian inhabitants of those villages that have not surrendered, and that they will not spare any Christians save those who are in the town. In regard to the petition of these poor people (except those of Metakhio, who were prevented from making any complaints), it was decided that they should proceed, in company with one of the members of the Council, to Armenos village, where Ahmet Pasha is quartered.

The Pasha having read their petition, replied that these same individuals had caused the rebellion, and hence they had to suffer, and added that the raid on the villages should not be repeated. This was all the satisfaction that could be obtained. It would appear that the authorities either are not willing, or have not the power, to prevent similar outrages from occurring. In our town, excesses of this sort frequently take place; and to those who complain, no more satisfaction than what I have stated is granted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 230.

Address from the Cretan Provisional Government to Commodore Boutakoff.

(Translation.) *Sphakia,* $\frac{June\ 30}{July\ 12}$, 1867.

MOTHERS and orphans, without bread and without clothing, in fleeing the forays of bands of Mussulman brigands and assassins, are now wandering on the shores of St. Vassili and Sphakia, exposed to the most intolerable suffering, and trembling at the very sight of a Turkish cruizer, lest it open fire upon them. The old men entrusted with their care are unable to defend them.

In appealing to your humane sentiments, we hasten to pray you would approach the shore between St. Vassili as far as Agia-Rumeli and Tripiti in Sphakia, in order to rescue these helpless and innocent creatures from certain destruction.

Receive, &c.

(Signatures follow.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 230.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Canea, Crete, July* 21, 1867.

I CONSIDER that there is no longer any doubt that massacres and other atrocities are being daily committed by the Ottoman soldiery, especially Bashi-Bazouks, on the defenceless Christian population in the interior of the island; of the sacking and firing of whole villages. The authorities are utterly powerless to repress such outrages. Besides, at Retimo and Candia many families are starving.

I have the honour to submit, in the event of hostilities not ceasing immediately,

whether foreign ships should not be permitted to remove out of the island such Christian families who may desire to go away.

I beg leave to request you would be good enough to telegraph the above to Lord Lyons, and return to me his Excellency's reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 231.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, August* 6, 1867.

I INQUIRED yesterday from Safvet Pasha the nature of his last intelligence from Crete, and was informed that Omer Pasha had written to the effect that the Franco-Russian measure reported in my despatch of the 23rd ultimo had already tended to reanimate the insurgent cause, and that his Excellency could no longer guarantee to suppress the rebellion within a given time.

Safvet Pasha expressed the decided opinion of the Porte still to be that the demonstration of the French and Russian Governments will have a most pernicious effect in retarding the pacification of the island, and that the Ottoman Government felt grateful to that of Her Majesty for its abstention from that measure, and would ask it for nothing more than to persevere in that policy, and to induce other Powers to follow the same course.

I questioned the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs as to the proposed Commission of Inquiry so anxiously urged by France. There seems to be some misapprehension on this subject, judging from the Marquis de Moustier's statement that the Council of the Empire had twice negatived a proposal for a Commission of Inquiry. Such a statement is not quite accurate. The real fact is merely that the Council of Ministers (a "Council of the Empire" does not exist) had accepted the proposal of sending a Commission to Crete for the purpose of inquiry, assisted by foreign Delegates, upon two conditions:—

1. That the object of said inquiry be first clearly defined.

2. That the Powers should guarantee the sovereignty of the Sultan, even supposing that the population, under the pressure of foreign adventurers, should declare for annexation to Greece.

Safvet Pasha strongly, and I believe with truth, protests against the term of "massacres of Christians" used in the Consular telegram of the 23rd ultimo. Cases of violence and bloodshed had arisen, but nothing like a "massacre," which would seem to imply a wholesale butchery.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. T. BARRON.

No. 232.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 16.)

My Lord, *Vienna, August* 13, 1867.

HAVING inquired of Baron Meysenbug, the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if anything new had occurred connected with the Cretan affairs, he said that the contest between the insurgents and the Turkish forces continued with doubtful success; that great cruelties were reported as having been perpetrated against the Greek population in the island, and that many of these starving and unfortunate people were seeking means of escaping to the mainland. The Austrian Government had ordered, out of views of humanity, the "Radetzki" frigate, which had been stationed at the Piræus for some time past, to cruize off Crete, and to receive on board any refugees who might appeal for succour, but to avoid making any demonstration or showing partizanship with the insurgents; and that, in fact, the "Radetzki" was too large a ship, and drew so much water that there were very few harbours in the island which she ever could approach, and that refugees seeking an asylum must come off to her.

I told Baron Meysenbug that this was the first I had heard of any such active step being taken by the Austrian Government, and that the last time I had seen Baron Beust, his Excellency seemed to deplore the expected interference of French and Russian ships in this sense. Baron Meysenbug replied that the instructions which had been sent to the

"Radetzki" were only such as he was sure any Commander of a British man-of-war would be furnished with, simply authorizing him to receive on board his ship unfortunate refugees, who might seek to save their lives by escaping to an asylum offered by a foreign man-of-war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BLOOMFIELD.

No. 233.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 19.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, August* 14, 1867.

REFERENCE having been made to the Cretan question in a conversation which I had two days ago with Prince Gortchakoff, I said that Her Majesty's Government have seen no reason to change their past policy respecting it; and I acquainted him with the answer which you had given to the Greek Minister in London, as reported in your Lordship's despatch to Mr. Ellis of the 26th ultimo, when M. Brailas-Arméni urged Her Majesty's Government to recommend the annexation of Candia to Greece.

Prince Gortchakoff expressed regret that the opinions of Her Majesty's Government and that of the Emperor should continue to differ on this subject.

His Excellency then read a telegram from General Ignatieff, reporting that Fuad Pasha had communicated to him the "irrevocable decision" of the Porte not to appoint a Commission of Inquiry into the state of affairs in Candia without first receiving a guarantee from the Powers recommending it, that they would not support a proposal for the cession of the island to Greece.

Prince Gortchakoff complained that Great Britain, which had on other occasions been disposed to support the aspirations of a people struggling for independence, should adopt a different course with respect to the Cretans. To which I replied, that though the people of England may have often sympathized with people under such circumstances, the Cretans evidently could not emancipate themselves without foreign aid, and Her Majesty's Government were not in the habit of affording support to insurrections against the authority of a Sovereign in alliance with Her Majesty; and as he alleged that the attitude of Her Majesty's Government and the language of Her Majesty's Ministers in Parliament had encouraged the Porte to permit the continuance of the cruel system of warfare by which he said Omer Pasha is endeavouring to force the Cretans to submission, I replied that no Government can have deprecated at Constantinople more strongly than that of Her Majesty the alleged atrocities of the Turkish troops, and if it were true that the Sultan is disposed to grant to the Cretans such administrative independence as may be consistent with his sovereignty, and they will not accept anything short of the annexation of Candia to Greece, the responsibility for the evils which their country is suffering cannot certainly be attributed to the Government of Her Majesty.

No. 234.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 19, 1867.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the language which you held in your conversation with Prince Gortchakoff on the affairs of Crete, as reported in your despatch of the 14th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 235.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 20.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, August* 3, 1867.

WITH reference to the first and second paragraphs of my Report addressed to your Lordship on the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Candia confirming the statement previously made of the massacres at

the districts of Rhizo and Pediada; also translation of a letter from the Consular Agent at Retimo, reporting that 600 Cretan Turks having sallied from Retimo Town, and advanced towards Angelianà, Metokhio, and Rumeli, they murdered twenty-five Christians, sacked and set fire to those villages.

The fact of Reshid Pasha's division having returned to Candia province must be owing to the re-appearance at Lasethe of a large body of insurgents. It will be remembered that most of these, on being dislodged from their position on that plateau by Omer Pasha, had retreated to the adjacent high mountains of Rhizo-Kastron; moreover, reinforcements have, during the early part of this week, been brought to these insurgents by the "Arkadi."

Mehmet Pasha, in his late Proclamation to the inhabitants of Retimo Province, (adverted to by Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino), exhorts the insurgents to lay down their arms and submit within five days' time, namely, up to the 30th ultimo.

Eight or ten of their Elders are required to present themselves to the Pasha as sureties. Failing to comply with the terms of the Proclamation, the property of all the insurgents will be confiscated, and troops will again enter the province and coerce the rebels into submission.

The Russian corvette "Mercury," with Commodore Boutakoff on board, returned from Retimo, and Candia, and the Piræus, on the night of the 31st, and immediately left again for the coast of Sphakia, to embark families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S. *August 5.*—Rear-Admiral Simon met the Generalissimo on the Sphakian coast, the latter protesting against the removal of the non-combatants.

The French and Russian ships have already carried away from Suja to Greece several thousand creatures in a horrible state of destitution. The Italian despatch-boat "Authion" is being employed on the same errand.

A flying column is about to be despatched from Kissamos into Omalos, through Selinos, to which latter district Omer Pasha was repairing. Five battalions from Apokorona passed recently through Canea, *en route* to Kissamos.

Inclosure 1 in No. 235.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Canea, July* 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state to you that the report relative to the massacres committed by the Turks at the district of Rhizo against unarmed Christians, including women and children, is every day confirmed by the Turks themselves.

On the other hand, Bairam Effendi, having returned from Pediada, informed me that he has arrested about thirty Turks who have committed gross excesses and plunders against unarmed Christian families in the district of Pediada. It ought to be remarked, however, that Bairam Effendi, on his Mission to Pediada, was not accompanied by any one of the Christian members of the Municipal Council, although Turkish members of the said Council accompanied him.

The greatest strictness continues in not allowing any Christian from the districts of this province entering this town.

As the Turkish army departed from Tymbaki, all this province is now left in the hands of the insurgents; a small body of regular troops is also stationary in the village Castelli of Pediada.

The Mudir of Mirabello and Lassithe has escaped from the said district, and returned to town, in haste, on account of the apparition of about 3,000 insurgents, who have recovered possession of the said district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 235.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, July* $\frac{17}{29}$, 1867.

TOWARDS the evening of Friday last the $\frac{7}{19}$th instant, the authority notified through the public crier, that all those Ottoman villagers who were in the town should forthwith proceed to the village Armenos, and present themselves before Mehmet Pasha. Accordingly 600 left this city.

On their arriving at Angeliana, Metokhio and Rumeli, peaceful Christian villages, the inhabitants of which, trusting to past promises that they would be secure, remained tranquil, these Turks, however, having first surrounded the villages, fell upon the inhabitants, massacring twenty-five of them, stripped the houses of everything, and then set fire to them; they have brought much booty into Retimo town. A blind priest was seized at Rumeli, and most severely beaten, in order to extort from him a confession of where he had secreted his money; information having reached the insurgents of what was passing, a body of them came down, on seeing which, the Turks made a hasty retreat, and returned to town. The booty has been sold by public auction, and the proceeds divided, 300 piastres falling to the share of each individual. It would appear as if the Government approve of these acts, and encourage them.

Some days before the preceding took place, two Turkish children and a man were made prisoners by the insurgents; the latter however treated them properly, and sent them back to their friends.

On the $\frac{12}{24}$th, Ottoman villagers went to the village Koxaray, and there found five unarmed Christians, whom they massacred; and on the same day a boat was freighted to convey them to Candia, taking with them booty that they had stolen from the villages Atzipopoulo, Vederan, Priné, Metokhio, and Frantseskiana, so that the cattle might not be recognised; for these reasons many of the Christians have come into town to reclaim what they have lost. One had the courage to declare that some of the cattle was his own, and these have been given up to him.

On the $\frac{13}{25}$th, Mehemet Pasha issued a notification, inviting the insurgents to lay down their arms and submit.

On the $\frac{3rd}{15th}$, the Russian Commodore Boutakoff arrived here, and after having landed with several of his officers, paid a visit to the Lieutenant-Governor. He then visited the houses of the Relief Commission, the members of which assured him of the proper care taken by them of the suffering families: to prove which, they pointed out to him the 670 souls now occupying the houses, that they had been supplied with 922 yards of linen, of which 400 were white; and that 3,000 okes of flour had been distributed amongst them during three months and a half. The Commodore inquired of these people whether they suffered from hunger or not, to which they all replied with one accord that they did.

This answer annoyed the Members of the Commission, so much so that both they and the authorities expressed their regret at such ingratitude, and said that they were not obliged to support such people. These latter made known to Commodore Boutakoff their desire to be removed from the island by him, if this could be done. The authorities have given permission to Ottomans to collect the valonea crop. The proprietors, who are Christians, and resident in this city, remonstrated, but to no purpose, as the authorities permit those who collect it to convey it to their own houses.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 236.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 23.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, August* 14, 1867.

I CANNOT discover that the return of the Sultan and of His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, since the date of my last despatch on the affairs of Crete of the 6th instant), has modified the policy of the Porte there described or the general posture of affairs.

As might have been expected, the French and Russian Embassies have renewed to Fuad Pasha their demands for a Commission of Inquiry, which the Grand Vizier had so long to encounter single-handed. Their Highnesses inform me that before leaving Constantinople on a visit to the Emperor Alexander in the Crimea, General Ignatieff

again sought to ascertain whether the Porte was willing to assent to the appointment of the proposed Commission, so that his Excellency might acquaint the Emperor with the latest views of this Government. The Turkish Ministers answered that the Sublime Porte would not object to an inquiry which should be confined to administrative reforms, but that they could not, for obvious reasons, sanction a political inquiry of the nature of that now proposed.

The French Chargé d'Affaires read to Fuad Pasha on the 12th instant, another of the Marquis de Moustier's numerous and urgent telegrams pressing for an immediate despatch of a "Commission d'Enquête."

The language of France on this point is more eager and emphatic than that of Russia. M. Outrey finally warned Fuad Pasha that by persevering in its refusal the Porte places itself in great danger.

The Turkish Ministers, according to what I can elicit, seem resolved to persevere in their policy to the last.

No. 237.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, August 26.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le* 14 *Août*, 1867.

POUR faire suite à mon expédition du 19 Juin, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint en copie la réponse de Photiades Bey à la dépêche ministérielle relative à l'incident de "l'Arkadi," et la réplique que je viens d'adresser à la Légation Impériale à Athènes.

Ces pièces, jointes à ma précédente communication, mettront votre Excellence en mesure de rétablir auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique la légitimité de la manière de voir de la Sublime Porte dans cette affaire.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *August* 14, 1867.

AS sequel to my communication of the 19th June, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of the reply of Photiades Bey to the Ministerial despatch relative to the case of the "Arkadi," and the answer which I have just addressed to the Imperial Legation at Athens.

These papers, with my former communication, will enable your Excellency to re-establish, in the eyes of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the legitimacy of the views of the Porte in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 237.

Photiades Bey to Safvet Pasha.

Excellence, *Athènes, le* 26 *Juin*, 1867.

J'AI eu l'honneur de recevoir avec les pièces y annexées la dépêche que son Altesse Fuad Pacha a bien voulu m'adresser en date du 19 Juin, en réponse à mon respectueux Rapport du 12 du même mois, relatif aux incidents auxquels a donné lieu l'attaque dirigée contre "l'Arkadi" par les bâtiments de la Marine Impériale.

Je me suis empressé de donner lecture à M. Tricoupi de la dépêche précitée, en l'appuyant des pièces qui l'accompagnaient, et de lui faire sentir catégoriquement qu'aux yeux du Gouvernement Impérial "l'Arkadi" ne saurait être considéré comme un simple contrebandier; que ce navire ne se borne pas à introduire clandestinement en Crète des objets prohibés, en violation du blocus, mais que s'étant mis au service des Comités qui nous font la guerre, il s'est voué au transport d'envahisseurs étrangers; qu'armé en guerre à l'instar des pirates il est toujours prêt à faire usage de ses canons et combattre les forces Impériales; et que, par conséquent, vu les actes auxquels il se livre, il se trouve en quelque sorte dénationalisé, et n'est légitimement couvert par aucun pavillon. J'ai ajouté que le Gouvernement Hellénique ne saurait protéger de son pavillon un navire dans une

telle situation, ni l'admettre dans ses ports, sans porter une grave atteinte aux relations de paix existant entre les deux Etats.

En ce qui concerne la poursuite de "l'Arkadi" par nos croiseurs, j'ai tâché de faire comprendre à M. Tricoupi que le caractère du navire poursuivi l'explique suffisamment, et que d'ailleurs, quand même il y aurait là un point à examiner, ce ne serait qu'après que le Gouvernement Royal aurait donné satisfaction à la Sublime Porte pour les griefs formulés dans la dépêche de son Altesse Fuad Pacha.

M. Tricoupi a d'abord repoussé de toutes ses forces la qualification de pirate donnée à "l'Arkadi," en me faisant observer que c'est un navire de commerce appartenant à une compagnie de navigation; que si on peut lui reprocher de se livrer à la contrebande de guerre, il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'il ne se livre ni au pillage ni aux captures, qu'il n'a fait usage de ses canons que pour se défendre contre l'attaque dont il était l'objet, qu'il n'a nullement provoqué la lutte et n'a fait, en définitive, que ce qu'il pouvait pour se sauver, et qu'il appartient exclusivement au Gouvernement Impérial de faire respecter le blocus, en réprimant, conformément au droit des gens, les bâtiments qui, à leurs risques et périls, peut le violer.

En ce qui concerne l'agression commise, d'après lui, par nos croiseurs dans les eaux territoriales de la Grèce, M. Tricoupi m'a déclaré que c'est là un acte qui constitue une offense à la souveraineté du pays que ni la qualité, quelle qu'elle soit, de "l'Arkadi," ni aucune autre circonstance ne peut justifier, et que de ce chef le Gouvernement Impérial est tenu de donner la juste satisfaction que le Gouvernement du Roi Georges a réclamée.

M. Tricoupi a fini en me demandant copie de la dépêche dont je lui donnais lecture; mais je me suis abstenu de le faire, en me réservant de solliciter préalablement les ordres de votre Excellence. A cet égard qu'il me soit permis de lui faire observer que comme il est à présumer que le Gouvernement Hellénique soumettra la question, avec le dossier y relatif, à l'appréciation des grandes Puissances, il importe que notre réponse, s'il y en a à faire, à sa note du $\frac{30 \text{ Mai}}{11 \text{ Juin}}$ dernier, ainsi que la communication des pièces à l'appui, soient faites en cette prévision. C'est aussi un devoir pour moi d'ajouter que mes collègues d'Angleterre et de France, auxquels j'ai donné lecture de la dépêche à laquelle j'ai l'honneur de répondre, ne m'ont pas paru convaincus en notre faveur.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) PHOTIADES.

(Translation.)

Your Excellency, *Athens, June* 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the despatch and its inclosures which his Highness Fuad Pasha was pleased to address to me on the 19th June, in answer to my humble Report of the 12th of the same month, with reference to the facts to which the attack against the "Arkadi" by the ships of the Imperial navy gave rise

I hastened to lay the aforesaid despatch before M. Tricoupi, with its accompanying papers, and to represent to him categorically that, in the eyes of the Imperial Government, the "Arkadi" could not be looked upon in the light of a mere contraband vessel; that this vessel does not confine itself to the clandestine introduction into Crete of forbidden articles, in violation of the blockade, but that, having entered the service of the societies which are at war with us, it has devoted itself to the transport of foreign invaders; that armed for war, like pirates, it is always ready to use its cannon and fight the Imperial forces; and that consequently, considering the acts to which it abandons itself, it is, in a measure, denationalized, and is legitimately under the shelter of no flag. I added that the Hellenic Government could not protect with its flag a ship in such a position, nor admit it into its ports without seriously endangering the peaceful relations existing between the two States.

With regard to the pursuit of the "Arkadi" by our cruizers, I tried to explain to M. Tricoupi that the character of the pursued ship is a sufficient explanation, and that, moreover, even if that were a point to be examined, it would only be so after the Royal Government had given satisfaction to the Sublime Porte for the grievances stated in the despatch of his Highness Fuad Pasha.

At first M. Tricoupi rejected most strenuously the designation of pirate applied to the "Arkadi," observing to me that she is a merchant-ship belonging to a Navigation Company; that if she can be reproached with giving herself up to the contraband of war, it is none the less true that she does not give herself up to pillage or capture, that she did not use her cannon except to defend herself against the attack of which she was the object, that she in nowise provoked the combat, and really did but what she could to escape; and that it is exclusively the duty of the Imperial Government to make the

blockade observed, by repressing, according to the law of nations, all ships which, at their own risk and peril, may violate it.

As regards the attack committed, according to him, by our cruizers in the territorial waters of Greece, M. Tricoupi declared to me that that is an act which constitutes an offence against the sovereignty of the country, which neither the quality, whatever it may be, of the "Arkadi," nor any other circumstance, can justify, and that, consequently, the Imperial Government is bound to give the rightful satisfaction which has been claimed by the Government of King George.

M. Tricoupi ended by requesting a copy of the despatch which I was reading to him; but I abstained from doing so, on the ground of previously obtaining the sanction of your Excellency. With reference to this, may I be permitted to remark that, as it is to be presumed that the Hellenic Government will submit the question, and the correspondence relating to it, for the approval of the Great Powers, it is important that our answer, if there is one to make, to his note of the $\frac{30\text{th May}}{11\text{th June}}$ last, as well as the communication of the papers which support it, be made with this view. It is also my duty to add that my colleagues of England and France, to whom I read the despatch which I have the honour of answering, did not seem to me convinced in our favour.

I am, &c.

(Signed) PHOTIADES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 237.

Safvet Pasha to Photiades Effendi.

Le 31 *Juillet*, 1867.

J'AI reçu la dépêche de son Excellence Photiades Bey, en date du 26 Juin, qui rend compte de l'entretien qu'il a eu avec M. Tricoupi sur l'incident relatif à "l'Arkadi," à la suite des instructions que son Altesse Fuad Pacha lui avait envoyées à ce sujet à la date du 19 Juin.

Les objections que M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce a cru devoir faire aux raisonnements que Photiades Bey était chargé de développer, n'ont pas paru au Gouvernement Impérial de nature à modifier sa manière de voir et la ligne de conduite que le soin de sa dignité lui a imposée en cette circonstance.

M. Tricoupi repousse la qualification de pirate qui nous a semblé la seule expression qui réponde à la situation de "l'Arkadi," et aux actes que ce navire a commis et continue à commettre dans les eaux Ottomanes. Une étude plus attentive et plus impartiale des faits devra le convaincre que notre jugement à cet égard n'a rien eu de trop sévère ni d'exagéré. Si "l'Arkadi" n'était qu'un navire de commerce essayant, dans un but de spéculation, de violer le blocus pour trafiquer de marchandises prohibées, la réclamation de M. Tricoupi serait fondée; mais, ainsi que Photiades Bey a pris soin de le lui rappeller, "l'Arkadi" s'est mis publiquement au service des bandes d'envahisseurs qui combattent l'autorité légitime du Sultan dans l'Ile de Crète.

Il transporte non pas seulement des objets de ravitaillement, mais des armes et des munitions, et, qui plus est, des hommes armés se rendant ostensiblement sur le lieu de la lutte. Dans ces conditions un navire, quel que soit le pavillon dont il se couvre, doit être traité comme le serait sur terre une bande d'insurgés rencontrée par les troupes Impériales. Ce n'est pas tout. "L'Arkadi" n'a pas seulement cherché à se dérober par la fuite à la poursuite des croiseurs, ainsi que M. Tricoupi le disait à Photiades Bey, mais il a résisté, a fait usage de ses armes, et s'est mis en état d'hostilité ouverte avec les croiseurs de Sa Majesté Impériale alors qu'il n'était que poursuivi et pas attaqué.

Ces faits, que vous devez rappeler à M. Tricoupi, se sont passés dans les eaux Ottomans; mais, même en pleine mer, quel nom donner à un navire de commerce qui se livre à de pareils actes, et comment pourrait-on lui laisser la ressource de s'abriter sous un pavillon qu'il n'a plus le droit d'arborer, alors qu'il a violé le droit des gens et s'est mis lui-même hors la loi?

"L'Arkadi" a donc agi comme un pirate et devait être traité comme tel, et les actes qu'il a commis ne pourraient perdre ce caractère que si la nation à laquelle il appartient était en guerre avec la Sublime Porte.

Il n'existe pas, je crois, entre ces deux situations, de terme moyen, et je suis convaincu que le Gouvernement Hellénique ne voudra pas couvrir de sa responsabilité des faits qui ne rentrent dans aucun des cas prévus par le droit des gens. S'il acceptait cette responsabilité, il obligerait la Sublime Porte à demander réparation pour un acte d'hostilité injustifiable dont la Grèce se rendrait elle-même solidaire.

En ce qui touche la poursuite de "l'Arkadi" dans les eaux Grecques, je ne crois pas

que M. Tricoupi puisse persister à voir dans cette circonstance une violation du droit des gens, puisqu'il s'agissait d'atteindre et de punir, ainsi que je l'ai démontré plus haut, un navire qui n'avait droit à la protection d'aucune nation, et que les autorités Helléniques auraient dû elles-mêmes capturer au lieu de lui accorder asile et protection. Mais, ainsi que son Altesse Fuad Pacha le faisait si justement remarquer dans sa dépêche du 19 Juin, il n'y aurait lieu d'examiner cette question que tout autant que le Gouvernement Hellénique aurait lui-même donné satisfaction à la Sublime Porte, en reconnaissant que le navire "Arkadi," en se mettant en état d'hostilité contre les croiseurs Impériaux, a violé le droit des gens et ne peut plus se prévaloir de la protection Hellénique, et enfin en offrant la juste réparation due au pavillon Impérial en raison de l'acte d'agression dont les croiseurs Ottomans ont été l'objet de la part des habitants de l'Ile de Cérigotto.

Je vous autorise à laisser copie à M. Tricoupi de la présente dépêche, ainsi que de celle de son Altesse Fuad Pacha du 19 Juin.

Recevez, &c.

(Translation.)

July 31, 1867.

I HAVE received the despatch of his Excellency Photiades Bey, dated the 26th of June, giving an account of the interview which he had with M. Tricoupi as to the case of the "Arkadi," in conformity with the instructions which his Highness Fuad Pasha had sent him on this subject, dated the 19th of June.

The objections which the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece saw fit to make to the arguments which Photiades Bey was commissioned to adduce, have not appeared to the Imperial Government of a nature to modify its views, and the line of conduct which the maintenance of its dignity imposed upon it in this matter.

M. Tricoupi rejects the qualification of pirate which seemed to us the only expression answering to the position of the "Arkadi," and to the acts which that vessel has committed, and still commits, in the Ottoman seas. A more attentive and more impartial study of the facts should convince him that our criticism was neither too severe nor too exaggerated. If the "Arkadi" were only a merchant ship trying, with a view to speculation, to violate the blockade in order to traffic in prohibited merchandise, the objection of M. Tricoupi would be well-founded; but, as Photiades Bey took care to remind him, the "Arkadi" placed herself publicly at the service of the bands of invaders who dispute the lawful authority of the Sultan in the Island of Crete.

She carries not only provisions, but also arms and munitions; and, what is more, armed men ostensibly going to the scene of combat.

Under such circumstances, a ship, under whatever flag she may be sheltered, should be treated as a band of insurgents upon land would be if met by the Imperial troops. That is not all. The "Arkadi" not only endeavoured to escape by flight from the pursuit of the cruizers, as M. Tricoupi said to Photiades Bey, but she resisted, had recourse to arms, and put herself into a state of open hostility against the cruizers of His Imperial Majesty when she was only being pursued, and had not been attacked.

These facts, which you should recall to M. Tricoupi, took place in Ottoman seas; but, even on the high seas, what name can we give to a merchant-vessel guilty of such proceedings? and how could we leave it the resource of sheltering itself beneath a flag which it no longer has the right to hoist when it has violated the law of nations, and put itself of its own doing beyond the law?

The "Arkadi" has then acted like a pirate, and should be treated as such; and the acts which she has committed could not lose this character unless the nation to which she belongs were at war with the Sublime Porte.

There is, I think, no medium between these two positions, and I am convinced that the Hellenic Government will not shield with its responsibility facts which are not contained in any of the contingencies foreseen by the law of nations. Did they accept this responsibility, they would oblige the Sublime Porte to demand reparation for an act of unjustifiable hostility, for which Greece would make itself answerable.

With regard to the pursuit of the "Arkadi" in Grecian seas, I do not think that M. Tricoupi can persist in seeing in this circumstance a violation of the law of nations, since the object of this pursuit was to capture and punish, as I have shown above, a ship which had no right to the protection of any nation, and which the Hellenic authorities ought themselves to have captured instead of affording it shelter and protection. But, as his Highness Fuad Pasha so justly observed in his despatch of the 19th June, the reasons for examining this question will only be in exact proportion to the measure of

satisfaction which the Hellenic Government may give to the Sublime Porte by admitting that the "Arkadi" has, by placing itself in a state of hostility to the Imperial cruizers, violated the law of nations, and put itself without the pale of Hellenic protection; and, finally, by offering to make the reparation rightfully due to the Imperial flag for the act of aggression which the Ottoman cruizers have experienced from the inhabitants of the Island of Cerigotto.

I authorize you to leave with M. Tricoupi a copy of this despatch, as also of that of his Highness Fuad Pasha of the 19th June.

I have, &c.

No. 238.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, August* 26.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le* 14 *Août*, 1867.

POUR faire suite à mon télégramme du 27 Juillet, concernant les faux bruits de massacres en Crète, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre ci joint, pour votre information, la traduction d'un rapport adressé en dernier lieu à la Sublime Porte par son Altesse le Serdar Ekrem ayant trait au même sujet.

Le contenu de cette pièce étant de nature à rétablir la complète fausseté des incriminations lancées ces jours derniers contre nos troupes et la population Musulmane en Crète, je vous prie, M. l'Ambassadeur, d'en faire tel usage que vous jugerez convenable.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

(Translation.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *August* 14, 1867.

AS a sequel to my telegram of the 27th July, respecting the false reports of massacres in Crete, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, for your information, the translation of a report lately addressed to the Sublime Porte by his Highness the Serdar Ekrem, having reference to the same subject.

The contents of this Report are of a nature to establish the entire falsehood of the blame lately thrown upon our troops and the Mussulman population in Crete; I therefore desire, M. l'Ambassadeur, that you will make such use of them as you may deem fitting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FUAD.

Inclosure in No. 238.

Report addressed to the Grand Vizier by Omer Pasha.

1 *Rebi-ul-Akher*, 1284 (1 *Août*, 1867).

LE bateau Impérial "Malakoff" est venu m'apporter la missive de votre Altesse datée du 26 Rebi-ul-Ewel, sur les côtes mêmes d'Ayi Rouméli au moment où je me trouvais déjà embarqué pour me rendre de là, avec les troupes qui s'y trouvaient, à Sélino.

J'ai lu, Altesse, avec la plus sérieuse attention toutes les pièces contenues dans cette missive.

Je dois tout d'abord déclarer à votre Altesse qu'il n'y a rien de vrai dans tout ce qui a été dit et publié avec une si grande ostentation tant par MM. les Consuls que par les chefs des perturbateurs, imputant aux troupes Impériales et à la population des massacres de femmes, d'enfants et de gens inoffensifs, et des actes de pillage, de violence et de viol.

Non seulement personne n'a touché ni aux familles qui sont sorties des grottes, ni à leurs biens, mais encore tous les objets que les habitants des villages environnants avaient récélés dans ces grottes—et il y en avait une grande quantité—ont été respectés. Ces familles se trouvent à l'heure qu'il est réinstallées dans leurs villages; et il est de plus à noter que les officiers de la cannonière Anglaise, qui avaient été envoyés, avant la sortie de ces familles des grottes, pour se rendre compte de la réalité des choses, avaient

pu voir de leurs propres yeux que nous étions bornés tout bonnement à bloquer ces grottes.

Il est également de fait que ni les mécaniciens se trouvant en service à bord de nos bateaux ni les médecins étrangers n'ont articulé un seul mot contre les troupes Impériales, et il n'y a pas eu non plus de démission donnée. Interrogés, d'ailleurs, par moi officiellement, ces messieurs viennent de me faire parvenir leurs réponses à cet égard que je me réserve de soumettre bientôt à votre Altesse.

J'aurai aussi l'honneur de transmettre incessamment à votre Altesse les suppliques sous forme d'adresse qui me sont déjà parvenues de la part des districts de Sélino, de Kissamo, d'Apocorona, de Mérambéla, de Yéra Petré, ainsi que des districts de Rizo et de Dibakié, suppliques par lesquelles les signataires sollicitent l'assistance de l'armée Impériale pour sauver les habitants du district de Ménoufatch des mains des brigands Hellènes qui, secondés par les malfaiteurs indigènes, exercent sur eux toute espèce d'exaction et d'oppression.

Le trait suivant montrera à votre Altesse quelle injustice l'on commet en calomniant nos troupes :—

Pendant que les familles se trouvaient dans les grottes, chaque jour des gens étaient envoyés pour les exhorter à la soumission. Un soir, à peine ces familles avaient-elles dit qu'elles se rendraient le lendemain matin et qu'elles avaient faim et soif, le soldat qui était en faction sur la grotte leur tendit la main pour leur offrir les biscuits et le matras d'eau qui formaient sa ration. Lorsqu'un de mes aides-de-camp est venu m'apprendre que ces familles en étaient arrivées à ces extrémités, sans attendre leur soumission, je me suis empressé de leur faire parvenir la même nuit, et non sans de grandes difficultés, une charge de biscuits et la quantité d'eau nécessaire. Qui pouvait donc penser qu'après tout cela l'on irait calomnier si cruellement et d'une manière si indigne et si déloyale ces mêmes troupes qui ont jusqu'ici tenu à honneur de faire tout pour le repos et la sécurité de ces mêmes familles ? Nous ne pouvons pas savoir s'il se trouve sur les montagnes et dans des villages des familles errantes qui manquent de vivres. Si ces familles ne veulent pas même nous renvoyer les parlementaires Chrétiens qui ont été envoyés à leur recherche pour les ramener à la raison, et persistent ainsi dans leur attitude criminelle, si, après tout cela, elles se voient réduites à la misère, n'est-il pas manifeste que ces familles ne font dans ce cas que subir les conséquences de leurs propres fautes ?

Veut-on par hasard nous imposer l'obligation d'accorder une paie et des vivres aux brigands ? Tandis que, d'après les lois martiales, nous étions en pleine droit de faire fusiller tous les brigands Hellènes et leurs espions pris par nous en état de guerre, rien de tout cela n'a été fait jusqu'ici, et pourtant c'est nous que l'on vient accuser aujourd'hui d'avoir massacré des femmes, des enfants, et des gens inoffensifs ! L'on va jusqu'à prétendre que nous avons arraché le cœur à des êtres tout vifs, et que nous avons trempé nos lèvres dans leur sang fumant ! Y a-t-il au monde un homme qui, ayant le moindre sentiment d'humanité, puisse commettre de telles cruautés, et même y penser ?

Votre Altesse a pu voir par les différentes pièces que j'ai eu l'honneur de lui expedier l'autre jour, quelles ont été les cruautés commises par les brigands sur les Musulmans, telles que : incendier leurs villages, emporter leurs filles, après avoir assassiné devant leurs yeux leurs pères et leurs mères, et encore une foule d'autres actes de barbarie inouïs. L'on sait de plus comment ils se sont comportés jusqu'ici envers tous ceux des habitants Chrétiens qui n'ont pas voulu se rallier à eux ; non-contents de les opprimer de toute manière, de piller leurs biens, d'incendier leurs villages, ils ont été jusqu'à couper le nez et les oreilles à ceux qu'ils soupçonnaient d'espionnage. L'on voit dans les villages bien des gens ainsi mutilés ; mais qu'on cite un acte semblable commis par nos soldats ! Les suppliques que nous recevons de la part de la population soumise témoigne de la manière la plus irrécusable du degré de défiance et de la terreur que leur inspirent les brigands Hellènes et les malfaiteurs indigènes.

A l'heure qu'il est, la majeure partie de nos bataillons occupent les positions nécessaires pour veiller à la sécurité des populations qui, cessant toute hostilité, ont fait déjà leur soumission. C'est encore dans ce but que cinq bataillons viennent d'être dirigés du côte de Candie.

Quant à l'attitude de son Excellence l'Amiral Simon, commandant l'escadre Française, qui, comme votre Altesse en a été informée, avait donné à son équipage l'ordre de ralliement autour de ses canons dès qu'il avait aperçu le croiseur Impérial "Chehber," j'ai déjà pris la liberté d'exprimer à votre Altesse la vive douleur que cet incident m'a fait éprouver ; et, bien que j'aie fait savoir par la même occasion à votre Altesse que jusqu'à la réception de ses ordres à cet égard, tout mouvement resterait suspendu de ma part, néanmoins, comme de toute l'Ile de Crète il ne reste à présent que le district d'Omalo où nous devions agir, j'ai pensé qu'il ne convenait pas du tout de laisser cette

région inoccupée. Aussi est-ce pour cette raison que je dirige aujourd'hui mes huit bataillons, de même qu'autant d'autres bataillons détachés du corps d'armée de Kissamo-Castel qui viennent d'arriver ici auront incessamment à se mettre en mouvement, pour agir sur le plateau d'Omalo. C'est précisément au moment où je prenais toutes ces nouvelles dispositions que m'est parvenue la missive de votre Altesse à laquelle j'ai l'honneur de répondre. Il est inutile d'ajouter que les ordres qu'elle contenait n'ont pu que donner une nouvelle force à mon plan, de manière que je redoublerai encore mes efforts pour harceler les brigands sans me laisser détourner ni de la prise des mesures ni de l'exécution des mouvements qui seront jugés nécessaires dans ce but. Il est à noter que peu avant cette démonstration de l'Amiral Simon, les habitants de Selino avaient envoyé solliciter leur pardon et l'entrée de nos troupes chez eux; ce n'est donc qu'aujourd'hui ou demain que je saurai si cet incident a produit, oui ou non, une réaction dans l'esprit des dits habitants.

Veuillez, &c.

(Translation.)

1 *Rebi-ul-Akher*, 1284 (*August* 1, 1867).

THE Imperial vessel "Malakoff" brought me the letter of your Highness, dated the 26th Rebi-ul-Ewel, off the very coast of Ayi Rouméli, at the very moment when I had just embarked to proceed thence, with the troops stationed there, to Sélino.

I read with the utmost attention all the papers contained in your Highness's letter.

And first, I must declare to your Highness, that there is no truth in that which has been said and published as well ostentatiously by the Consuls as by the Chiefs of the insurgents, imputing to the Imperial troops and to the population massacres of women and children, and inoffensive people, besides acts of plunder, violence and rape. Not only has no one touched the families which left the grottoes, nor their goods, but even the objects which the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages had concealed in their grottoes—and there was a great quantity of them—even these were respected. These families now are reinstalled in their villages; and it is, moreover, to be remarked, that the officers of the English gun-boat, who had been sent, before these grotto-families left their abodes, to inquire into the true state of affairs, might have seen with their own eyes that we were confining ourselves simply to blockading these grottoes.

It is equally true that neither the engineers who were serving on board our ships, nor the foreign doctors, uttered one single word against the Imperial troops, and there have been no resignations sent in. Moreover, when officially questioned by me, those gentlemen have just sent in their answers on this point to me, and I shall soon submit them to your Highness.

I shall also have the honour to transmit, without delay, to your Highness, the petitions in the form of an address which have reached me on the part of the districts of Selino, Kissamo, Apocorona, Mérambéla, Yera Petré, as also from the districts of Rizo and Dibakié,—petitions by which those whose signatures are attached beg the assistance of the Imperial army to rescue the inhabitants of the district of Menoufatch from the hands of the Greek brigands, who, seconded by native evil-doers, practise on them every species of exaction and oppression.

The following example will show your Highness what injustice is done by calumniating our troops:—

While the families were in the grottoes, people were sent every day to exhort them to submit. One evening these families had no sooner said that they would give themselves up the next day, and that they were hungry and thirsty, than the soldier on guard at the grotto stretched out his hand to offer them the biscuits and the vessel of water which formed his rations. When one of my aides-de-camp came to inform me that these families had arrived at these extremities, without waiting for their submission, I hastened to convey to them the same night, and not without great difficulty, a load of biscuit and the necessary quantity of water. Who would then imagine that, after all this, they would go and calumniate so cruelly and in so shameful and dishonest a manner, those very troops who have, up to now, made it a point of honour to do all for the repose and security of these very families? We cannot know if there are families wandering on the mountains without food. If these families will not even send back to us the Christians who have been sent to find and to parley with them to bring them back to reason, and persist thus in their criminal attitude; if, after all this, they find themselves reduced to misery, is it not evident that in that case these families only suffer the consequences of their own faults?

Perhaps they wish to impose on us the obligation of giving pay to and feeding the

brigands? Although we, according to martial law, should have been fully justified in shooting all the Greek brigands and their spies taken by us in a state of war, nothing of the sort has been done up to now; and yet it is us that they accuse to-day of having massacred women, children, and innocent people. They go so far as to pretend that we tore out the hearts of living people, and that we dipped our lips in their smoking blood. Does there exist in the world a man with the least feeling of humanity who could commit such cruelties, or even think of them?

Your Highness saw from the different documents which I had the honour to forward to you the other day, what cruelties have been perpetrated on the Mussulmans by the brigands, such as burning their villages, carrying off their girls, after assassinating before their eyes their fathers and mothers, and a host of other unheard-of acts of barbarity. It is moreover known how they have behaved up to now to the Christian inhabitants who did not wish to rally round them; not content with oppressing them in every way, robbing them of their goods and burning their villages, they have gone so far as to cut off the noses and ears of those they suspected of being spies. Many persons thus mutilated are to be seen in the villages; but can any such act be brought home to our soldiery? The supplications we receive from the subdued population bear witness, in the most positive manner, to the degree of defiance and terror that the Greek brigands and native evil-doers inspire.

At this time the greater part of our battalions occupy the positions necessary to watch over the security of the populations, who, having ceased all acts of hostility, have already given in their submission. With this view five battalions have just been marched from the coast of Candia.

As regards the conduct of his Excellency Admiral Simon, commanding the French squadron, who, as your Highness has been already informed, ordered his guns to be manned when he saw the Imperial cruizer "Chehber," I have already taken the liberty to express to your Highness the pain which this occurrence has given me; and although I informed your Highness on the same occasion that, pending the reception of orders on the subject, no movement would be made by me, still, as the district of Omalo is the only one left in the Island of Crete where we must proceed to operations, I thought it would not be right to leave that district unoccupied. So, with that view, I dispatch to-day my eight battalions, and the same number of other battalions detached from the corps d'armée of Kissamo-Castel who have just arrived here, and who will have forthwith to march to operate on the plateau of Omalo. Just as I was making these new dispositions your Highness's letter reached me, to which I have the honour to answer. It is useless to add that the orders it contained only confirmed my measures, so I shall redouble my efforts to harrass the brigands without losing sight of measures or the execution of movements which will be judged necessary with that view. It is to be remarked that a short time before the demonstration of Admiral Simon, the inhabitants of Selino had sent to beg for their pardon and for the entry of our troops. I shall only know to-day or to-morrow if this incident has produced a re-action in the spirit of the said inhabitants.

No. 239.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 27.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, August* 12, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that that the Generalissimo arrived here from Sfakia and Selinos the day before yesterday by sea. His Highness has withdrawn his troops from Aya-Rumeli and the uplands of Sfakia for strategical reasons, and owing to the scarcity of water in that region,—nearly all the wells being choked up with stones and sand, and in many instances the water having been found impregnated with herbs of a deleterious nature.

The troops, moreover, are suffering severely from dysentery.

The army being thus broken up is now cantoned Selinos, Franco-Castelli, Kissamos, &c., while two columns sre marching into Omalos, one through Selinos, the other through Apanokhorio, in Kissamos.

In addition to the "Arkadi," another Hellenic clipper, the "Enosis," has commenced plying between Syra and this island. Having on the 6th instant landed at Aya Pelagia, in Mylopotamos, a considerable contraband cargo and some volunteers, it returned to Greece with 210 women and children, wounded and sick men.

French and Russian ships of war are still being employed in the removal of Cretan families to Greece: also the Italian despatch-boat "Authion."

On the 9th instant the Prussian gun-boat "Blitz" arrived from Syra, and left the following morning for the coast of Retimo for the purpose of embarking women and children.

The new Turkish blockader "Retimo" has arrived from England.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 240.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 27.)

(Extract.) *Admiralty, August* 26, 1867.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a copy of a letter dated the 15th instant, from Vice-Admiral Lord Clarence Paget, with copies of its inclosures from Lieutenant Murray, commanding the "Wizard," respecting the state of affairs in the Island of Crete, and of the progress of the insurrection.

Inclosure 1 in No. 240.

Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Caledonia*," *at Spezia, August* 15, 1867.

I TRANSMIT, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, two despatches of recent date from Lieutenant Murray in command of the gun-boat "Wizard," descriptive of affairs in the Island of Crete and of the progress of the insurrection, which I think their Lordships will find interesting.

2. Their Lordships will observe that Lieutenant Murray, whilst adhering strictly to the neutrality enjoined upon him by my instructions, has been instrumental in the cause of humanity in obtaining the release of some Cretan families who were blockaded in a cave at Franco-Castelli, a proceeding of which I have approved; and I would desire to bring the name of this young officer before their Lordships as one whose discretion has on several occasions called for the expression of my entire satisfaction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. PAGET.

Inclosure 2 in No. 240.

Lieutenant and Commander Murray to Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget.

My Lord, "*Wizard*," *Canea, Crete, July* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that, on or about the 1st instant, his Highness Omer Pasha landed at Franco-Castelli, near the town of Sfakia, for the purpose of trying to effect an entrance into that district. His force consisted of ten battalions which represent 4,000 to 5,000 men. It appears that an assault was to have been made on the 7th instant, and the division under Mehemet Pasha was to enter by the opposite pass of Krapi and effect a junction with Omer Pasha's troops in the plains of Askifo. The manœuvre, however, failed; Mehemet Pasha was allowed to traverse the pass till near the end without opposition, when the insurgents fell upon him and drove his troops back as far as Trifes, with, I believe, considerable loss.

About this time I received reports that, at Franco-Castelli, a large number of insurgents, mostly women and children, were blockaded in a cave where they had taken refuge: at first I paid little attention to the story, but Her Majesty's Consul, having inquired of the Acting Governor, was informed that such was the case, but that he believed the lives of the families were in no danger. The cave had been bombarded by the vessels of war in order to breach it sufficiently for several men to enter simultaneously, but without success, and several Turks had been wounded by the defenders in the attempt to enter.

On the 11th instant I had information that every effort was being made to dislodge

these insurgents, and that sulphur had been proposed as a means of expulsion or destruction.

Fearing a repetition of the tragedy at Melidoni some years ago, at which Mustapha Pasha was present, when hundreds of women and children were smothered in a cave, I proposed to Her Majesty's Consul that I should proceed to Franco-Castelli, visit the Captain Pasha, and intercede on behalf of the sufferers.

I left accordingly on the morning of the 14th instant, arriving at Franco-Castelli the same evening. After having obtained permission to anchor, I waited on the Captain Pasha, and explained the object of my visit. He informed me that my information was correct as regarded the bombardment, but that the lives of the families were in no danger. While on board I received a message from Omer Pasha that he would be glad to receive me, and accordingly I visited him the following morning in company with Mr. Hall, second master.

His Highness expressed great satisfaction that an English ship should have come, as he was convinced our motive was perfectly disinterested, and only in the cause of humanity; at the same time he begged me to assure all the Consuls that no unfair means should be resorted to for the expulsion of the insurgents from the cave. He said that he was most anxious to get them out, as a large quantity of powder was stored within, also two members of the Provisional Government, "which is denied at Canea," and a very large number of families, whose sufferings, he said, must be very great. He also assured me he had granted an amnesty to all, except the two members, provided they would come out. I was invited to visit the cave and communicate with those inside, by means of a hole in the top, but declined on the grounds that I should probably be implored to remove them from the island, when the object of my visit was to ensure their lives and not their removal. Two small blockhouses have been erected, one on each side of the cave, to guard against the escape of the men. His Highness showed me the dispositions of his troops, also his plans of operation, and expressed his confident belief in his ability to bring them to terms in a few days. He deplored the destruction of the country and the burning of the villages, but said it was necessary towards quelling the insurrection.

After partaking of luncheon with his Highness I returned to Canea, with the assurance that in this instance at any rate no barbarities would be committed on helpless women and children.

On going to Franco-Castelli I was careful to avoid the line of blockade, but on my return his Highness begged I would proceed inshore, as I would not only be enabled to see the country, but thereby the distance would be much shortened. On passing Thomaia I observed a large number of insurgents on the shore, who were apparently transporting provisions, &c., to the mountains.

On my arrival at Canea I heard the "Arkadi" had landed the day before, so I presume these people were taking her cargo to Samaria.

I conceive our visit will produce most beneficial effects; and I trust your Lordship will approve my proceedings in the cause of humanity. That Omer Pasha will succeed in quelling the insurrection, even if he effects an entrance into Sphakia, I do not for a moment believe, He was most anxious to impress on me that Sphakia was in his possession; but considering the positions he now occupies were formed without any opposition, I am led to believe the insurgents have got something in store, and have reserved their defence for the plains of Kalikrati and Askifo.

Letters from Candia describe the state of that town and district as most deplorable. Her Majesty's Vice-Consul states that the dead bodies are dug out of the graves, and thrown to the dogs, and that the stench has caused great sickness in the town, twenty to the thirty dying every day.

The Provisional Government sent a circular to the Consular Representatives, to the effect that they considered themselves belligerents, and that therefore they were going to issue letters of marque on Turkish commerce.

The new blockade-runners "Crete" and "Enosis" have arrived at Syra, and will soon commence running.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. J. MURRAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 240.

Lieutenant and Commander Murray to Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget.

My Lord, "*Wizard*," *Canea, Crete, July* 22, 1867.

THE reign of terror which has long threatened, has become a fearful reality. Parties of Bashi-Bazouks, who have given up service with Omer Pasha (not finding it sufficiently remunerative), scour the country, and put to death any man, woman or child they find.

The whole district of Kissamos is a scene of mourning, for all the young men being in the hills fighting, their families are left without protection, and at the mercy of these ruffians.

Despatches arrived at Suda Bay on Saturday 20th, by boat, from all the Agents at Candia, reporting a fearful massacre in that district. It appears the Turks surrounded the villages at night, and in the morning massacred all men, women and children therein. The respective Agents and Vice-Consuls waited on the Governor, and requested permission to send out their dragomans, accompanied by zaptiehs, to inquire into the affair, but their request was refused. On receipt of this intelligence at Canea, several Consuls waited on the Acting Governor, Server Effendi, with the Reports of their Agents at Candia.

His Excellency did not deny that the massacre had taken place, but as an extenuating circumstance said, that some Turks had been killed by Christians, which is utterly untrue, as there is not a Mussulman in the whole district outside the walls of the town. He was obliged to confess that the Government is powerless to prevent these atrocities from taking place, nor do they care to prevent them, for the Turks now openly avow their intention of killing all the Cretan Christians.

The families, both in Candia and Retimo, are in a deplorable condition; the small quantity of food supplied to them has been stopped by order of the Government, and many die daily from foul air and starvation.

The troops have made no progress towards quelling the insurrection during the past fortnight.

Omer Pasha remains at Franco-Castelli, while his troops occupy the adjacent heights.

Mehemet Pasha has been allowed to enter Askifo, where he has been blockaded twelve days, and cut off from all external communication. If speedy relief is not soon afforded he will have to capitulate, as he started with only nine days' provisions.

The hospitals are full of sick and wounded. Yesterday a number were sent to Constantinople to make room for others.

Altogether the chances of quelling the insurrection have never been less than at present.

Your Lordship will be glad to hear that my intercession on behalf of the families in the case at Franco-Castelli has been productive of some good, inasmuch that the next day several families surrendered, and were permitted to go to the hills, but I fear only to fall into the hands of the Bashi-Bazouks.

It is positively asserted by an English engineer in the Turkish service who saw the whole affair, that Omer Pasha before the bombardment of the cave had endeavoured to smoke the occupants out, but without success. I have just seen a circular letter from the Provisional Government to the Consuls, which states (in order to contradict the false reports spread by Omer Pasha) they send this circular to inform the Consuls that the movements on Kalikrati and Asfendu have utterly failed; that they have repulsed the Turks at every point, "and are able to maintain their positions; that a pass was purposely left open for Mehemet Pasha to enter Askifo, where he is closely blockaded."

I also saw a letter from the Provisional Government to Commodore Boutakoff, imploring him to remove the families from Sfakia and Agio Vasillios which are wandering about the seaboard in the greatest misery.

This night the Italian steamer "Authion" leaves for Piræus with identical telegram from the Consuls of England, France, Russia, and Italy, to be transmitted to Constantinople. The following is the purport of the telegram: "Bashi-Bazouks scouring the country, burning and plundering villages, murdering men, women, and children. Government powerless to prevent them. If a suspension of hostilities is not at once agreed on, may foreign ships remove families?"

Since writing the above I have received reliable information of the relief of Mehemet Pasha, and of the troops possessing the plain of Askifo. Coroneos, with the main body of insurgents, has retired to the district of Retimos, and meditates a descent on the rear of the forces under Reschid Pasha. Zimbrakaki, with 2,500 insurgents, has gone to

Omalos. We shall now see what effect the occupation of Sfakia will have on the insurrection. That it will have the effect of crushing it I do not for one instant believe.

In my last advices to your Lordship I omitted the date to my letter; it should have been Canea, July 16, 1867.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. J. MURRAY.

No. 241.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 28.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, August* 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a report forwarded from Crete by the Commander-in-chief in refutation of the charges brought against the Imperial troops now acting there.*

The so-called identic telegram of the Consuls had been made the handle of much misrepresentation. On the part of Her Majesty's Consul it was not an identic but only a simultaneous despatch sent by him from Canea on the 21st of July, requesting Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens to inform Her Majesty's Government by telegraph of "massacres and atrocities" on Christians, that "the authorities are utterly powerless," and that at Retimo and Candia many families are starving. He therefore submitted the question whether foreign ships should not be permitted to remove Christian families. The text of this despatch was conveyed to your Lordship and to Lord Lyons in despatches of the 26th of July.

The only identic telegram, that of the French, Italian, and Russian Consuls, dated also the 21st of July, as recorded in my despatch of the 30th July, was couched in much more emphatic terms, stating that "the authority can neither repress the insurrection nor restrain these atrocities. Humanity imperiously demands an immediate suspension of hostilities, or the transport of the women and children to Greece."

M. Tricon, the French Consul, wrote on the same day a vivid account of the deplorable condition of the island and of some outrages which had come to his knowledge. M. Tricon himself, however, does not go to the length of imputing these massacres to the "permission of the Sultan and his Government."

M. Outrey immediately sent orders to the French Admiral at the Piræus to act in consequence; but his orders had been already anticipated by previous orders from Paris.

With reference to this massacre of women and children, I cannot discover that such a thing has occurred in the sense which I attach to the word, viz., a wholesale butchery in cold blood. Many outrages and murders have been committed in this struggle, especially by the irregular troops on both sides, who are mostly native Cretans animated with intense hatred to each other.

The Mahometans, especially the proprietors of land, have been equal sufferers with the Christians by all this rapine and devastation. No doubt the want of food and shelter must be most distressing, but cannot be justly imputed to one only of the belligerents.

The negotiation for a Commission of Inquiry may be considered at an end. Ever since the 14th instant, when I last wrote to your Lordship on this subject, the French Embassy has used the most strenuous efforts to press this measure on the Porte. The Marquis de Moustier has exhausted every form of argument calculated to convince the Turkish Ministers, in daily telegrams, despatches, and private letters. Yesterday M. Outrey proceeded again to the Grand Vizier's and pressed for some favourable answer, even if in a modified form, to the French counsels. He was met with a firm, peremptory, and final refusal to entertain the project for a Commission of Inquiry, unless accompanied by some previous guarantee of the sovereignty of the Sultan over the Island of Crete.

No. 242.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 1.)

My Lord, *Athens, August* 24, 1867.

I FORWARDED to your Lordship yesterday morning the news which I had heard of the capture of the blockade-runner the "Arkadi," and I have since seen the French Admiral Simon, who was present when she was chased and destroyed. The Admiral had taken in some Cretan families at Roumeli, on south coast of Crete, and was lying out near that place on the night of the 12th instant, when he heard firing and saw a small Turkish

* See Inclosure in No. 238.

ship chasing the "Arkadi." He followed them, and describes the ships as going at a very high speed, and says that there was much firing; but that, owing to the darkness, it was impossible to judge of the effect. They were running westward when he first saw them, but the "Arkadi" had very frequently to alter her course to avoid two Turkish ships, one a frigate, who tried to shut her in. She finally rounded Cape Krio, and went ashore among the rocks in a small creek not far from it. She was so placed that she was partially protected by the rocks, and in such shallow water that the frigate could not approach her. The ship which chased her, and which is the Sultan's yacht "Izzeddin," the same ship which chased her on a former occasion, when she took refuge in Cerigotto, was able to get near enough to continue her fire.

The Admiral afterwards saw the "Arkadi" on fire. He said that he had not communicated with the Turkish ships, and that, partly owing to its being night, and partly to the distance he was forced to keep, it is impossible for him to express an opinion as to whether the "Arkadi" was run ashore on account of any damage she may have received, or from the impossibility of escaping from the Turkish ships, nor could he say whether her burning was caused by the enemies shot, or whether she was fired by her own crew.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES AGAR ELLIS.

No. 243.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, August* 17, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Candia, stating that the whole of that province continues to be in open revolt; the return of Reshid Pasha (whose departure from Sfakia I announced in my report of the 3rd instant); and the destruction of Preveli monastery; and that an expeditionary force was about marching against Mirabello district, or the Rewa Mountains, &c.

I must add, in corroboration of Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino's statement, that three battalions of troops have just been despatched from Suda Bay to Candia.

I inclose, moreover, a translation of a letter from the Consular Agent at Retimo, announcing the return at that town of the troops, after these had devastated the villages in that neighbourhood. The Christian families in Retimo were still in great distress, and had appealed to the Consular Agents for relief. I have meanwhile received a petition, dated the 8th instant, from the "Cretan General Assembly," praying that British ships may be sent to this island, and convey to Greece the suffering refugees. These are flocking daily to various parts of the coast, eagerly looking out for European ships to carry them off.

The Prussian gun-boat "Blitz," having been refused permission to embark families in Retimo port, has since proceeded on to Bali for that purpose.

Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino further reports that the insurgent prisoners at Retimo have been reduced to a very low scale of diet, and are suffering severely in consequence.

By a Turkish steamer, arrived yesterday from the coast of Selinos, information has been received of the entry into Omalos by the Ottoman troops. These met with obstinate resistance in the steep valley of Aiya Irene, through which they had to pass, and which was defended by a strong body of Cretans and Hellenic Volunteers under the leadership of Captains Hadji Mikhalis and Kriaris. The steamer in question brought to Canea some 400 sick and wounded. The plain of Omalos was found empty, and the troops have, since the late attack, returned to the villages of St. Irene.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S., August 19.—The troops having scoured the plain of Omalos, passed through Krustoyérakos, where another fight took place. The Cretan Irregulars had 72 casualties, including 2 Seleniote standard-bearers killed. An engagement has also occurred at Muri. The town of Canea contains upwards of 1,200 sick and wounded. A multitude of troops were embarking yesterday at Kalyves for Tuzleh, thence they march up to this town. In Keramia valley, villages are on fire.

The American corvette "Swatara" has just arrived from Malta, also the Prussian gun-boat "Blitz" from the Piræus.

C. H. D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 243.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, August* 10, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state to you, that almost all the districts of this province are in the possession of the insurgents, and there are Turkish troops only in the villages Castelli of Pediada, and Daphnes of Temenos. Reshid Pasha has been obliged to come back from Sphakia. He arrived here on the 3rd instant, having left his troops at Aya-Varvara.

They suffered a good deal on their passage, as they were harassed by the insurgents from Sphakia as far as Tymbaki.

During the late expedition to Sphakia the Turks have pillaged and burnt as many villages as they could, as well as the rich and noted Convent of Preveli.

This province is continually in danger of the insurgents, who lately came close to the gates of this town, and carried off all the cattle they found, as well as eighteen pair of oxen, of a choice selection, appertaining to my farm Gephyraka, bought from Mustapha Pasha

A portion of the Christian population in this neighbourhood has been lately allowed to enter into this town, and to import the little produce which has escaped pillage; none of the Christians are allowed to carry away provisions from the town to their villages.

An expeditionary force is preparing for Mirabello or for the mountains of Rewa, near the village Gergeri, where a large number of Christian families are assembled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 243.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, August* 12, 1867.

SINCE my last letter of the 17th ultimo nothing of note has occurred here. The troops, including Irregulars, stationed at Armenos, Ambelaki, &c., after destroying all the villages in that neighbourhood, returned to town on the 24th.

The foreign ships are rendering great service in removing families, for these latter are starving, in great misery, and, in their dread from the barbarities of the Turks, many are hastening to the coast, in order to be conveyed away. The families in Retimo have appealed to the Consular Agencies here for assistance.

On Saturday last the Prussian gun-boat "Blitz" arrived here; the Commander having waited on the Governor with the Austrian Agent, informed him that he had come for the purpose of removing families. His Excellency remarked that he had received no orders from the Governor-General, and could not consent to his taking them away. After visiting the Agencies, the Commander requested to be furnished with a declaration from the Austrian and Russian Agents to the above effect, and left for Bali to carry out his mission.

Yesterday the families here were interrogated by the authorities whether they wished to leave the island or not, with the exception of a few, who were intimidated by fear; they all replied in the affirmative.

A petition has been presented by a number of Christians who are in prison. If you would use your influence in obtaining their release, you would be rendering a humane and charitable act; they have had to live upon bread and water for the last eight months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 244.

Consul Lloyd to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord, *Syra, August* 24, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the annexed translation of a letter from the agent of the Greek Steam Navigation Company at the Piræus to the head-quarters of the Company at Syra, dated August $\frac{11}{23}$, reporting the destruction, by Turkish Government

vessels, of the Greek blockade-runner "Arkadi," near Agia Roumeli, on the coast of Sfakia, in Crete, on the evening of the 21st instant.

The "Arkadi," which left Syra on her twenty-third voyage (thirty-eighth of blockade running), about 3 A.M. of the 18th instant, laden with 1,000 bags of flour, 1,000 bags of biscuit, 50 bags of salt, 1,040 pairs of sole leathers, 120 okes of thick leather, 60 okes of thin leather, and 173,200 cartridges, and about 100 volunteers, with orders to land at Agia Roumeli, might have got there the same evening, or early the next morning; but, up to the present, except mere rumours, the letter from the agent at Piræus contains all that is known here of the matter.

The "Ennosis" (late "Owl") has been ready to start for Crete laden with a similar cargo, but waited the return of the "Arkadi," and will probably leave this evening.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

Inclosure in No. 244.

The Agent of the Greek Steam Navigation Company at Piræus to the Administrative Council.

(Translation.) *Piræus, August* $\frac{11}{23}$, 1867, 6 A.M.

YESTERDAY morning at 10 o'clock arrived in the harbour of Piræus, from Crete, the French Admiral with women and children, and brought the terrible news of the catastrophe of the "Arkadi," which took place at Agia Roumeli, as follows:—

The Turkish steamer "Izzeddin" saw and chased the "Arkadi," both firing at each other. The "Arkadi" tried to get away from the coast of Crete, when there appeared before her two Turkish iron-clad frigates; the "Arkadi" then found herself between three cruizers which discharged against her all their guns. Then the "Arkadi," almost destroyed, and not able to escape from the imminent danger, backed astern (by order of the captain, whose activity and courage and bravery the French Admiral admires) at full speed for the sake of saving the crew, and passing through the enemy's vessels, which continued firing, the "Arkadi" was thrown ashore on the coast of a small bay of Crete near Agia Roumeli.

The large Turkish vessels could not approach, but only the "Izzeddin" approached, and a terrible fight began with cannons and rifles.

During the fight the captain gained time and landed the crew of "Arkadi," and afterwards set her on fire and burnt her. The crew on shore continued to fight against the seamen of the Turkish cruizers who tried to land on shore.

An eye witness of all the above was the French Admiral, being very close when the catastrophe of the "Arkadi" occurred, which took place on the evening of last Wednesday the 21st. The above we learned from the son of the French Admiral, who spoke with admiration of the courage, promptitude, and great maritime ability of the captain of the "Arkadi."

For the Agent,

(Signed) V. PAPANICOLAOU.

No. 245.

Consul Lloyd to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 2.)

My Lord, *Syra, August* 25, 1867.

BY Austrian boat, arrived this morning from Piræus, further particulars have been received of the destruction of the "Arkadi." It is said she arrived at Agia Roumeli on the eve of Sunday the 18th, and had discharged part of the cargo, when the "Izzeddin" came there and the "Arkadi" left. The "Izzeddin" remained at Agia Roumeli, and on the evening of Monday the 19th the "Arkadi" returned to the same place, and was fired into and chased by the "Izzeddin," and then went away to the westward, but was met by two more vessels, who fired and joined in the chase. The "Arkadi" managed, however, to round Cape Krio, and ran into the shallows south of Elaphonisi, when the crew landed, and repulsed the crew of the "Izzeddin," who tried also to land; and later the captain of the "Arkadi" set fire to her. Two only of the crew of the "Arkadi" are reported to be killed.

The captain of the "Arkadi" is said to have written from where he was to the Greek Consul at Canea, inclosing a letter for his wife at Athens, giving the above particulars.

It is also said that on Monday the 19th the French Admiral saw and spoke with the "Izzeddin" at Agia Roumeli.

The only British subjects in the "Arkadi" are Jones, 1st, Cowley, 2nd, and Erskine, 3rd engineer.

The "Ennosis" left for Crete last night.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 246.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 6.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, August* 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French Government persistently presses on the Porte its favourite scheme, a Commission of Inquiry into the condition of the Island of Crete. To overcome the steadfast *non possumus* of the Ottoman Ministers, the Marquis de Moustier uses every argument calculated to convince, and even to alarm. One of these is, that France has never authorized any one to insinuate that the Commission was meant to lead to the cession of Crete; on the contrary, that in his Excellency's opinion its adoption was the best, perhaps the only, means of saving the island.

The last event of the war, the burning of the blockade-runner "Arkadi" on the morning of the 19th instant, is not of a nature to make the Turks more yielding. I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship the official account of the occurrence founded on reports of the military and naval commanders. It appears that the captain (Khodja), and steersman of the "Arkadi" were killed, but that most of the crew and volunteers on board escaped. Five or six men of the "Izzeddin" were killed. Her commander, Hassan Bey, her officers and crew, have been promoted or otherwise rewarded by the Sultan.

I have further the honour to transmit to your Lordship an official abstract of Reports from the Ottoman Generalissimo, refuting, on the authority of impartial witnesses, among others of Mr. G. K. Warren, and other English engineers, the alleged massacres charged to the Imperial troops, and seeking to prove the existence of a strong reaction against the pressure of the foreign volunteers. Omer Pasha further complains of the high-handed proceedings of the foreign ships employed in the removal of fugitives, which carry on their operations on the coast day and night without brooking the least control from the maritime authorities, sometimes even taking a menacing attitude towards them. The Russian ships, he asserts, makes no scruple to take numbers of Greek boats in tow, and go so far as to land provisions and ammunition on the coast at night.

The Serdar-Ekrem finally reports the capture on the 2nd August of the plateau of Omalos, the last stronghold of the insurgents.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. T. BARRON.

P.S.—I have reason to know that new institutions are being actively elaborated for Crete.

H. P. T. B.

Inclosure 1 in No. 246.

Extract of Despatches from Omer Pasha to the Porte, dated August 16, 1867.

(Traduction.)

SON Altesse Omer Pacha revient dans ces rapports sur les deux assertions principales contenues dans le télégramme que quelques Consuls résidents à la Canée ont adressé à leurs Gouvernements, et qui a provoqué l'envoi, dans les eaux de Crète, des bâtiments de guerre étrangers chargés de transporter en Grèce des familles Crétoises.

Les dits Consuls annoncent d'abord des massacres de femmes et d'enfants; ils ajoutent que l'autorité est impuissante à reprimer l'insurrection et les actes de cruauté qu'elle provoque.

A l'appui de la première de ces assertions, on invoque les témoignages des médecins, ingénieurs, et mécaniciens étrangers au service de la croisière Impériale, chargée du maintien du blocus en Crête, qui auraient donné leur démission.

Or, cette allégation est tout à suit controuvée. Dans un rapport signé par Voisin Bey, Commandant du "Gharbié," par M. Zébo Boulozzi, médécin, par M. J. Sicard, mécanicien-en-chef, et par d'autre officiers-mécaniciens étrangers de ce bâtiment, et daté de Sfakia, 3 Avril, 1867, ces Messieurs déclarent "qu'il ne leur est jamais venu à l'idée de donner leur démission à cause d'actes de cruauté que des rumeurs attribueraient à l'armée Ottomane, par la raison," ajoutent-ils, "que nous n'avons jamais assisté à aucun fait blâmable de sa part. . . . . Qu'en fin nous avons toujours été, au contraire, temoins d'actes de générosité, de clémence et surtout de patience."

Un autre rapport, qui porte les signatures de M. G. K. Warren, ingénieur-en-chef, et de six autres ingénieurs Anglais au service du Gouvernement Impérial, MM. George Ovenklen, William Williams, George Stone, Charles Lamb, Samuel Kopper, et Thomas Keay, dénient en termes catégoriques les bruits d'après lequels ils auraient abandonné le service de l'escadre Impériale à cause du dégout que leur auraient inspiré les procédés du corps expéditionnaire envers les familles des insurgés. Voici leurs propres expressions :

"Nous nous rendîmes à Franco-Castelli à la suite de son Altesse Omer Pasha. C'est là que nous avons été logés, tandis que les troupes bloquaient la grotte. Après quelques jours des femmes et des enfants quittèrent ce refuge, et ils furent transportés sous des tentes, où ils étaient traités avec humanité par les officiers et par les soldats. Un grand nombre de ces femmes et de ces enfants vivent aujourd'hui en toute sûreté dans des maisons à Franco-Castelli ; ce dont nous avons été témoins nous-mêmes." Ce rapport est également daté de Sfakia, 4 Août.

Les témoignages de MM. Julius C. Crebbin, William Davidson, James Stark, John Murray, et John Stoten, ingénieurs attachés à la frégate "l'Osmanie," ne sont pas moins formels. Ils écrivent de la Sude, à la date du 5 Août, que la nouvelle qu'avaient fait courir les insurgés, et d'après laquelle ils auraient été témoins d'actes de cruauté et de barbarie commis sur des vieillards, des femmes, et des enfants, par son Altesse Omer Pacha, et par les troupes placés sous les ordres, est complètement fausse. "Nous déclarons," disent-ils, "au monde entier, que nous n'avons été témoins d'aucun acte de cette nature ; mais que, au contraire, l'un de nous a vu transporter les hommes, les femmes, et les enfants des grottes de Sfakia à deux villages avoisinants, à nombre de 250 environ. Personne ne les a maltraités. Ils avaient d'amples provisions."

Son Altesse Omer Pacha rapporte encore le témoignage du Docteur Brunner, médecin du 4me bataillon du 4me Régiment du 2me Corps d'Armée, dont le rapport est daté de la Canée, le 8 Août, et qui s'était trouvé à Castel-Kissamo depuis le 26 Juin, date du commencement des opérations militaires d'Aali Pacha, Général de Division. Cet officier déclare qu'il n'a pas été témoin, et pas même entendu parler, de massacres qu'on prétend avoir eu lieu, et dont la nouvelle a été publiée par les journaux de l'Europe. Ces massacres, comme l'histoire de quarante jeunes filles envoyés par le Général Ottoman à Castel-Kissamos, sont autant d'invention que Mr. Brunner qualifie de fable ridicule.

Pour ce qui est de la seconde assertion de MM. les Consuls, l'impuissance de l'autorité à réprimer l'insurrection, son Altesse Omer Pacha se borne à rappeler, à juste titre, les victoires décisives remportées par les troupes placées sous son commandement sur les rebelles qu'elles ont détruits et dispersés dans toutes leurs rencontres ; l'occupation successive par l'armée Impériale des positions les plus fortes et réputées inexpugnables de l'Ile de Crête.

Le rapport de son Altesse annonce de nouvelles défaites infligées aux volontaires sur les côtes de Aï-Vassil par Réchid Pacha, Caïmacam de Candie. Ces bandes ont été dispersées, après avoir subi des pertes considérables. Le chef de brigands, Coraka, avait tout récemment encore incendié plusieurs villages Musulmans de Candie, et menaçait du même sort les villages Chrétien les plus paisibles qui refusèraient de se rallier à ses bandes. Mais ces pauvres villageois avaient préféré de se réfugier dans les montagnes, et se faisaient un devoir de signaler aux autorités les mouvements des rebelles, et les localités où "l'Arkadi" devait débarquer ses cargaisons. La remise des armes se poursuivait dans l'île entière ; le Sandjak de Candie n'offrait plus aucun sujet de préoccupation, et les autorités recevaient des autres parties de l'île des pétitions qui prouvent à quel point les Crétois sont las des vexations que leur font subir les volontaires. Ainsi, dans une pétition du 21 Juillet, les habitants du village Sarkine, district de Sélino, s'expriment en ces termes :—

"Sujets de Sa Majesté le Sultan, nous venons vous prier de délivrer des mains des malfaiteurs notre district et d'empêcher que nos maisons ne soient incendiées."

Par une autre pétition, les villages Chrétiens de Rizo se plaignent aussi amèrement des déprédations de Coraka et de sa bande. "Parceque," disent les villageois, "nous avons refusé de laisser 'l'Arkadi' aborder nos côtes, nous avons été battus, maltraités, pillés. Ce que ces gens commettent dans notre district, parceque nous ne voulons pas

nous rendre complices de leurs méfaits, surpasse tout ce qui nous avons souffert du temps des 'Janissaires.' Notre désir, c'est de voir arriver chez nous un Mudir qui gouverne notre district. . . . . La terreur chasse de leurs demeures les villageois, qui vont chercher un refuge sur les montagnes; mais ce n'est point la crainte de l'autorité. Notre districte est tombé, par les maux que ces gens nous font souffrir, dans un état insupportable."

D'autres pétitions, notamment celles des districts de Mirabello, d'Yera-Petro, de Ménoufatz, et de Kissamos, formulent les mêmes plaintes et les mêmes vœux.

En un mot, les volontaires, désorganisés, repoussées par les indigènes eux-mêmes, manquant de moyens de subsistence, en étaient déjà venus à délibérer sur les voies de leur reddition, au moment de l'arrivée des bâtiments étrangers pour recueillir les familles des insurgés. Son Altesse Omer Pacha fait, en outre, ressortir les conditions regrettables dans lesquelles ces bâtiments opèrent sur nos côtes. Sans souffrir l'ombre même d'un contrôle de la part de nos autorités maritimes, et sans aucun avis préalable, ils abordent tous les points du littoral pour recueillir des familles, y passent parfois la nuit, communiquent avec la terre à toute heure de la nuit, et vont jusqu'à prendre une attitude menaçante envers tout croiseur Impérial qui entreprend de suivre leurs mouvements. Notamment, les bâtiments Russes ne se font pas scrupule de prendre à la remorque nombre de petits bâteaux Grecs, et choisissant de préférence les heures de la nuit, débarquent partout, d'après des informations authentiques, des approvisionnements et des munitions. Quant aux choix des familles, les bâtiments Russes vont en chercher jusque dans les villes et celles à l'entretien desquelles le Gouvernement Impérial n'a cessé de pourvoir au prix de tant de sacrifices, à l'heure même qu'elles compturent parmi leurs membres ses ennemis les plus acharnés.

Le Serdar-Ekrem termine en annonçant la prise par les Généraux Ali Berri et Ali Riza Pachas du plateau d'Omalo, la dernière position forte des insurgés, et où les troupes Impériales ont, après quelques combats et de grandes pertes causées aux insurgés, arboré le 2 Août le drapeau Ottoman. A la date de cette expédition, son Altesse était revenue à la Canée pour surveiller les besoins généraux du corps expéditionnaire.

Un autre rapport, reçu ultérieurement de la part de Serdar-Ekrem, donne le compte-rendu de la rencontre qui vient d'avoir lieu entre le croiseur Impérial "Izzeddin" et "l'Arkadi," et qui, après un combat acharné, eut pour résultat la destruction de ce corsaire.

Voici le résumé de ce rapport:

"L'Arkadi," qui depuis plusieurs mois, transportait en Crète des volontaires, des vivres, et des munitions de toute espèce, fut aperçu en face d'Aïa-Rouméli dans la nuit de Dimanche, 18 Août, par "l'Izzeddin," bâtiment de la marine Impériale Ottomane, Commandant Hassan Bey, qui croisait dans ces parages. Le croiseur Ottoman mit le cap sur le corsaire Hellène et une lutte violente à coups de canon s'engagea entre les deux bâtiments. "L'Arkadi," après avoir subi de fortes avaries et prêt à succomber, essaya de prendre le large. "L'Izzeddin," bâtiment à vitesse supérieure, se mit à la poursuite du pirate, et bientôt l'aborda. Alors s'engagea un combat corps à corps qui se termina par la mort du capitaine de "l'Arkadi," du timonier, et de la majeure partie de l'équipage. Pendant cette lutte, un obus, lancé par le bâtiment ennemi, éclata sur le pont de "l'Izzeddin" et tua ou blessa cinq ou six matelôts.

Le Commandant Ottoman et tout l'équipage firent preuve dans ce combat, qui dura de 10 heures de la nuit jusqu'à 4 heures du matin, de la plus grande bravoure. Enfin, Hassan Bey fit faire à son navire un leger mouvement en arrière, et, recommençant l'attaque, prit le bâtiment ennemi en flanc et brisa en morceaux la roue de tribord. Le pirate alla échouer sur les récifs de la côte. Le carcasse flotta encore quelque temps sur l'eau; ce qui restait de son équipage y mit le feu. Les pièces d'artillerie dont "l'Arkadi" était armé furent transportés sur la frégate cuirassé le "Mahmoudié," et l'on se mit à repêcher la machine.

Ainsi a péri ce pirate, qui a servi à faire affluer dans la malheureuse Ile de Crête tant de criminels et de gens sans aveu, et qui a été une des principales causes des maux dont cette île a souffert.

Dès la réception de cette nouvelle à Constantinople, Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan a daigné récompenser le Commandant Hassan Bey, en le nommant Capitaine de vaisseau, et en accordant diverses promotions à l'équipage de "l'Izzeddin." Les familles des matelots qui ont péri dans le combat naval qui vient d'être décrit ont également reçu des marques de la munificence Impériale.

(Translation.)

HIS Highness Omer Pasha recurs in his reports to the two principal assertions contained in the telegram that some Consuls resident in Canea have addressed to their Governments, and which caused the despatch, to Cretan waters, of foreign vessels of war charged with the transport of Cretan families into Greece.

The said Consuls first of all announce the massacre of women and children; they add that the authorities are powerless to crush the insurrection, and the acts of cruelty which result from it.

To support the first of these assertions they adduce the evidence of the foreign doctors, engineers, and mechanics who were in the service of the Imperial cruizer charged with the blockade of Crete and who have left the service.

Now this allegation is quite contradicted by what follows. In a report signed by Voisin Bey, Commander of the "Gharbié," by M. Zebo Boulozzi, the doctor, by M. J. Sicard, head engineer, and by other foreign engineers, officers of that ship, and dated Sphakia, April 3, 1867, these gentlemen declare "that they never had an idea of giving notice to leave on account of the acts of cruelty which rumours attributed to the Ottoman army, for the reason, they added, that we have never been present at any culpable action. . . . . That finally, we have, on the contrary, always witnessed acts of generosity, clemency, and above all, of patience."

Another Report, which bears the signatures of M. G. K. Warren, chief engineer, and of six other English engineers in the service of the Imperial Government, Messrs. George Ovenklen, William Williams, George Stone, Charles Lamb, Samuel Kopper, and Thomas Keay, denies, in categorical terms, the reports which state that they had abandoned the service of the Imperial squadron on account of the disgust they felt at the proceedings of the expeditionary corps towards the families of the insurgents. These are the word they use:—

"We went to Franco-Castelli in the suite of his Highness Omer Pasha. We were lodged there while the troops blockaded the grotto. After some days some women and children left this refuge, and they were placed under tents, where they were treated with humanity by the officers and soldiers. A great number of these women and children are living to-day quite safe in the houses of Franco-Castelli: we witnessed this ourselves." This report is also dated Sphakia, August 4.

The evidence of Messrs. Julius C. Crebbin, William Davidson, James Stark, John Murray, and John Stoten, engineers attached to the frigate "Osmanli," are not less formal. They write from Suda on the 5th of August that the report circulated by the insurgents, and according to which they had witnessed acts of cruelty and barbarity committed on old men, women, and children by his Highness Omer Pasha, and by the troops placed under his orders, is completely false. "We declare," they said, "to the whole world that we have never witnessed any act of that nature; but, on the contrary, one of us saw the men, women, and children transported from the grottoes of Sphakia to two neighbouring villages, about 250 in number. No one ill-treated them. They had ample provisions."

His Highness Omer Pasha reports also the evidence of Dr. Brunner, Doctor of the 4th Battalion of the 4th Regiment of the 2nd Corps d'Armée, whose report is dated Canea the 8th of August, and who was at Castel-Kissamos from the 26th of June, the date of the commencement of the operations of Aali Pasha, General of Division. This officer declares that he has not been witness of, nor has he even heard mentioned, the massacres which it is pretended took place, and the announcement of which has been published by European journals. These massacres, as also the story of the forty young girls sent by the Ottoman General to Castel Kissamos, are also pure invention, which Mr. Brunner calls an absurd story.

With regard to the second assertion of MM. the Consuls as to the impotence of the authorities to crush the insurrection, his Highness Omer Pasha confines himself to quoting, as he is fully entitled, the decisive victories gained by the troops under his command over the rebels, whom they have destroyed and dispersed in all their combats, and the successive occupation by the Imperial army of the strongest positions and those reputed the most impregnable in the Island of Crete.

The report of his Highness announces new losses inflicted on the volunteers on the shores of Aï-Vassil by Reshid Pasha, Kaimakam of Candia. These bands have been dispersed after sustaining considerable loss. The Chief of the brigands, Coraka, had quite recently set several Mussulman villages in Candia on fire, and threatened the most peacefully inclined Christian villages of Candia which refused to join his bands with the same fate. But these poor rustics preferred to take refuge in the mountains, and made

it a point of duty to notify to the authorities the movements of the rebels, and the points where the "Arkadi" was to disembark its cargoes. The surrender of arms was going on all over the island: the Sandjak of Candia gave no further trouble, and the authoritise received from the other portions of the island petitions which prove to how great an extent the Cretans are weary of the vexations they are subjected to by the volunteers. Thus, in a petition dated the 21st of July, the inhabitants of the village of Sarkine, district of Selino, use the following terms:—

"Subjects of His Majesty the Sultan, we come to pray you to deliver our district from the hands of evil-doers, and to prevent our houses from being burnt."

In another petition the Christian villages of Rizo complain equally bitterly of the depredations of Coraka and his band. The villagers say, "Because we have refused to let the 'Arkadi' land on our shores we have been beaten, ill-used, and plundered. That which we are suffering from these people in our district, because we will not participate in their crimes, surpasses all that we suffered in the time of the Janissaries. Our wish is to see the advent of a Mudir to govern our district. . . . . Fear drives the villagers from their houses, they go to seek a refuge on the mountains; but not through fear of the authorities. Our district has fallen into an insupportable condition through the evils inflicted on us by these people."

Other petitions, especially those of the district of Mirabello, Yera-Petro, of Menoufatz, and of Kissamos, make the same complaints and express the same wishes.

In a word, the volunteers, disorganised and repulsed by the natives themselves, without the means of support, were so far reduced as to deliberate on the manner in which they should tender their surrender at the moment of the arrival of the foreign vessels to receive the families of the insurgents. His Highness Omer Pasha, besides, represents the regrettable state of things that these vessels produce on our coasts. Without tolerating even a shadow of control on the part of the maritime authorities, and without any previous advice, they land at all parts of the coast to embark the families of the insurgents, sometimes pass the night there, communicate with the land at all hours of the night, and even go so far as to assume a menacing attitude towards any Imperial cruizer who undertakes to watch their movements. Above all, the Russian vessels do not scruple to take in tow numbers of small Greek vessels, and prefer the small hours of night to land everywhere, according to authentic information, provisions and munitions of war. As far as the choice of families is concerned, the Russian vessels go so far as to seek them even in the towns, and those to whose support the Imperial Government has not ceased to contribute at the cost of so many sacrifices at the very moment that they number among their members their most deadly enemies.

The Serdar Ekrem ends by announcing the capture by the Generals Ali Berri and Ali Riza Pashas of the plateau of Omalos, the last strong position held by the insurgents, and where the Imperial troops, after some fighting and causing great loss to the insurgents, planted the Ottoman flag on the 2nd of August. At the date of that expedition his Highness had returned to Candia to superintend the general necessities of the expeditionary corps.

Another report, received subsequently to that of the Serdar Ekrem, gives an account of the fight which had just taken place between the Imperial cruizer "Izzeddin" and the "Arkadi," and which, after a bloody combat, ended in the destruction of that corsair.

This is an account of the report:—

The "Arkadi," which for several months past had been transporting volunteers, provisions, and munitions of all sorts into Crete, was made out opposite to Aïa Roumeli on the night of Sunday the 18th of August, by the "Izzeddin," a ship of the Imperial Ottoman navy, Commander Hassan Bey, who was cruizing in those waters. The Ottoman cruizer headed for the Greek corsair, and a furious cannonade ensued between the two vessels. The "Arkadi," after sustaining great loss and being nearly obliged to strike her colours, tried to run away. The "Izzeddin," being a faster vessel, gave chase to the corsair and soon boarded her. Then a hand-to-hand combat ensued, which ended with the death of the captain, the steersman, and the greater portion of the crew. During this struggle, a shell fired by the enemy's vessel burst on the deck of the "Izzeddin," and killed or wounded five or six sailors.

The Ottoman Commander and all the crew, during this combat, which lasted from 10 o'clock at night to 4 in the morning, showed the greatest courage. At last Hassan Bey ordered his vessel to go slightly astern, and then going again a-head he caught the enemy's vessel on her broadside and smashed to pieces her starboard wheel. The pirate was on the point of grounding on the reefs of the coast. The hull floated for some time. The remainder of the crew set fire to her. The guns with which the "Arkadi" was

armed were transported to the armour-plated frigate "Mahmoudié," and they set to work to raise the engines.

Thus perished this piratical vessel, which was instrumental in bringing into the unfortunate Island of Crete so many criminals and vagabonds, and which has been one of the principal causes of the evils this island has suffered.

Since the receipt of this news at Constantinople, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has been graciously pleased to reward the Commander Hassan Bey by promoting him to the rank of captain, and by promoting several of the crew of the "Izzeddin." The families of the sailors who fell in the action just described have also received proofs of the Imperial munificence.

Inclosure 2 in No. 246.

Extract from "La Turquie" of August 26, 1867.

Détails Officiels.—NOUS publions ci-après les détails transmis à la Sublime Porte par son Altesse Omer Pacha et l'Amiral Vessim Pacha, commandant les forces navales en Crète, concernant la destruction de "l'Arkadi" par le bâtiment de la marine Impériale "l'Izzeddin."

"L'Arkadi," qui depuis plusieurs mois transportait en Crète des volontaires, des vivres et des munitions de toute espèce, fut aperçu en face d'Aïa Rouméli dans la nuit de Dimanche, 18 Août, par "l'Izzeddin," bâtiment de la marine Impériale Ottomane, Commandant Hassan Bey, qui croisait dans ces parages. Le croiseur Ottoman mit le cap sur le corsaire Hellène, et une lutte violente à coups de canon s'engagea entre les deux bâtiments. "L'Arkadi," après avoir subi de fortes avaries et prêt à succomber, essaya de prendre le large. "L'Izzeddin," bâtiment à vitesse supérieure, se mit à la poursuite du pirate, et bientôt l'aborda. Alors s'engagea un combat corps à corps qui se termina par la mort du Capitaine de "l'Arkadi," du timonier, et de la majeure partie de l'équipage. Pendant cette lutte, un obus, lancé par le bâtiment ennemi, éclata sur le pont de "l'Izzeddin," et tua ou blessa cinq ou six matelots.

Le Commandant Ottoman et tout l'équipage firent preuve dans ce combat, qui dura 10 heures de la nuit jusqu'à 4 heures du matin, de la plus grande bravoure. Enfin, Hassan Bey fit faire à son navire un leger mouvement en arrière, et, recommençant l'attaque, prit le bâtiment ennemi en flanc et brisa en morceaux la roue de tribord. Le pirate alla échouer sur les récifs de la côte. La carcasse flotta encore quelque temps sur l'eau; ce qui restait de son équipage y mit le feu. Les pièces d'artillerie dont "l'Arkadi" était armé furent transportées sur la frégate cuirassée le "Mahmoudié," et l'on se mit à repêcher la machine.

Ainsi a péri ce pirate, qui a servi à faire affluer dans la malheureuse Ile de Crète tant de criminels et de gens sans aveu, et qui a été une des principales causes des maux dont cette île a souffert.

Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan a bien voulu récompenser le Commandant Hassan Bey, en le nommant Capitaine de vaisseau, et en accordant diverses promotions à l'équipage de "l'Izzeddin." Les familles des matelots qui ont péri dans le combat naval que nous venons de décrire ont également reçu des marques de la munificence Impériale.

Les débris de l'insurrection, battus sur tous les points de l'île, et n'osant plus offrir la moindre résistance, se sont éparpillés sur les montagnes par bandes de quarante à cinquante hommes. Ils s'efforcent, en livrant les districts soumis au feu et à la désolation, de les soulever de nouveau contre l'autorité souveraine. Mais la population elle-même prend soin d'avertir l'autorité de l'apparition de ces bandes dans quelque localité qu'elles se présentent; toutes les mesures sont prises d'ailleurs pour extirper complètement les restes du brigandage.

(Translation.)

Official Details.—WE publish, as follow, the details transmitted to the Sublime Porte by his Highness Omer Pasha, and Admiral Vessim Pasha commanding the naval forces in Crete, concerning the destruction of the "Arkadi" by the ship "Izzeddin" of the Imperial navy.

The "Arkadi," which for several months past had been transporting volunteers,

provisions and munitions of all sorts into Crete, was made out opposite to Aïa-Roumeli on the night of Sunday the 18th of August, by the "Izzeddin," a ship of the Imperial Ottoman navy, Commander Hassan Bey, who was cruizing in those waters. The Ottoman cruizer headed for the Greek corsair, and a furious cannonade ensued between the two vessels. The "Arkadi," after sustaining great loss and being nearly obliged to strike her colours, tried to run away. The "Izzeddin," being a faster vessel, gave chase to the corsair and soon boarded her. Then a hand-to-hand combat ensued, which ended with the death of the captain, the steersman, and the greater portion of the crew. During this struggle, a shell, fired by the enemy's vessel, burst on the deck of the "Izzeddin," and killed or wounded five or six sailors.

The Ottoman Commander and all the crew, during this combat, which lasted from 10 o'clock at night to 4 in the morning, showed the greatest courage. At last, Hassan Bey ordered his vessel to go slightly a stern, and then going again a-head he caught the enemy's vessel on her broadside, and smashed to pieces her starboard wheel. The pirate was on the point of grounding on the reefs of the coast. The hull floated for some time. The remainder of the crew set fire to her. The guns with which the "Arkadi" was armed were transported to the armour-plated frigate "Mahmoudié," and they set to work to raise the engines.

Thus perished this piratical vessel, which was instrumental in bringing into the unfortunate Island of Crete so many criminals and vagabonds, and which has been one of the principal causes of the evils this island has suffered.

Since the receipt of this news at Constantinople, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has been graciously pleased to reward the Commander Hassan Bey by promoting him to the rank of captain, and by promoting several of the crew of the "Izzeddin." The families of the sailors who fell in the action just described have also received proofs of the Imperial munificence.

The remainder of the insurgents, being beaten at all points of the island and daring no longer to offer the slightest resistance, dispersed themselves over the mountains in bands of from forty to fifty in number. They endeavour by bringing fire and desolation into the subdued districts to cause them to rise again against the sovereign authority. But the population itself takes care to warn the authorities of the appearance of these bands, in whatsoever locality they may appear; moreover, all measures are taken to extirpate completely the last remains of brigandage.

No. 247.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 8.)

(Extract.) *Florence, September* 3, 1867.

M. BARBOLANI, the Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, in speaking to me to-day respecting the affairs in the East, mentioned that the Italian Minister at Athens had been recently informed by the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs that the position of affairs had become such in Greece that the Government was determined to temporize no further, but to go at once to the assistance of the Candians. With this intention, the Minister said, recruits would be raised in about a fortnight; it was inexpedient to do so sooner, on account of the hands being required for the harvest, and an expedition would then be despatched to the assistance of the insurgents. They were determined, he added, to "risquer le tout pour le tout."

The Italian Minister, M. Barbolani said, had immediately done his best to dissuade the Greek Government from such a rash enterprize, and these counsels he will have since repeated on the part of his Government, but M. Barbolani does not seem to be sanguine of their being listened to.

No. 248.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 9.)

My Lord, *Athens, August* 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of a Report made by the captain of the blockade-runner "Arkadi," and of a letter written by a sailor on board of her, giving an account of the pursuit of the "Arkadi" by Turkish ships, and her destruction. These accounts do not essentially differ from the account the French Admiral gave me, nor from a very detailed description of the event given by one of the officers on board the Admiral's ship.

According to this officer, the commanders of the Turkish ships were aware that the "Arkadi" was hiding behind the Island of Gabdo or Gozzo, and that she would return to Roumeli during the night. The "Izzeddin" appears to have gone in the direction of Gabdo to meet the "Arkadi," the two other Turkish ships waiting opposite Suja or near that bay; but where the "Arkadi" met these other Turkish vessels does not seem clear from any of the accounts I have seen, and I cannot but think that the merit of taking the "Arkadi" is due entirely to the "Izzeddin."

The French Admiral has received orders not to continue his voyages to Crete for the purpose of bringing away Cretan families, but the Prussian, Russian, and Italian vessels are still bringing women and children from Crete. An Austrian gun-boat also brought some to the Piræus yesterday. The French ships have brought 5,000 persons nearly all women and children; the Russians 4,800; and taking into account those brought by other foreign ships, the total would be nearly 13,000; and it is calculated that the total amount of Cretans brought here since the insurrection is at least 25,000.

The Government have adopted a system of sending these poor persons to different ports in Greece, where the inhabitants have lodged them and would appear to have treated them with great kindness, but it seems doubtful whether they will be able to provide for the large number who, it is stated, are waiting to come here, and it will be difficult for the Government to find means to feed so large a number of people who cannot work.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES AGAR ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 248.

Newspaper Extract.

AU moment de mettre sous presse nous venons d'apprendre quelques détails très circonstanciés sur la perte de "l'Arkadi." Nous les tenons d'un brave marin M. Démétrius Sava, qui était à bord le "l'Arkadi" au moment de sa perte, en qualité de cannonier-maître :—

"En arrivant à Gabdo nous aperçûmes de fumée au haut d'une montagne ; quelques heures après nous repartions pour Sainte Roumélie ; en nous éloignant de Gabdo, nous avons vu sur une montagne moins élevée s'allumer un feu rouge ; bientôt il s'éteignit ; nous pensâmes que ce pouvait bien être un signal pour avertir les croiseurs Turcs de notre présence dans ces parages. A 9 heures de soir (c'était le Lundi 19 Aôut), nous entrions en Rade de Sainte Roumélie ; au moment où nous allions jeter l'ancre, nous aperçûmes un vapeur Turc à un mille environ de distance ; le vapeur venait de doubler le Cap Crioumetopon ; derrière lequel se ténait probablement caché par suite des signaux que l'on avait faits du hautes montagnes de Gabdo. Aussitôt que nous eûmes aperçu ce navire, nous mîmes le cap au large. Nous n'étions en route que depuis une demie heure, quand le vapeur signalé, qui ne cessait de faire des signaux à d'autres vaisseaux Turcs au moyen de fusées et de feux de bengale, nous atteignit ; il se mit aussitôt à tirer sur nous ; nous ripostions avec vigueur tout en continuant de faire route ; les boulets ennemis ne nous avaient fait aucune avarie, mais nous aperçevions déjà trois vaisseaux Turcs qui gouvernaient sur nous. Nous filions toujours rapidement, lorsque enfin un boulet de 'l'Izzeddin' (car c'était bien lui) endommagea gravement notre roue de tribord, ce qui ralentit beaucoup notre marche et permit aux autres croiseurs de nous attendre un peu avant minuit. Cependant une fausse manœuvre de 'l'Izzeddin' le rapprocha tellement de 'l'Arkadi,' que son avant heurta le nôtre et les deux navires se trouvèrent un moment attachés l'un à l'autre. Nous cessâmes le feu et nous allions nous élancer sur 'l'Izzeddin' pour le prendre à l'abordage ; celui-ci était plus élevé que 'l'Arkadi' et il nous a fallu

quelques minutes pour y grimper et ' l'Izzeddin ' qui, dans l'intervalle, put se dégager et s'éloigner. Alors nous avons eu à soutenir un combat naval contre tous les croiseurs qui nous poursuivaient ; ce combat a duré plus d'une heure ; tout en combattant nous nous dirigions vers la côte où nous arrivâmes en passant au milieu des navires ennemis. Arrivés là nous échouâmes ' l'Arkadi ;' puis nous mîmes le feu et nous nous éloignâmes à pied dans la direction d'Omalos. Dans cet affaire nous avons perdu une quinzaine d'hommes dont quatre seulement faisaient partie de l'équipage ; et nous, nos effets d'habillements. Notre Capitaine, M. A. Courenti, s'est constamment conduit comme un brave et digne marin ; il a fait preuve d'une habilitér emarquable et d'un grand sang-froid. Pendant toute l'action plus de mille boulets ont été lancés de part et d'autre, sans compter les balles qui pleuvaient dru comme grêle."

Rapport du Capitaine de "l'Arkadi" au Conseil de l'Administration de la Compagnie de Navigation a Vapeur.

Partis de Syra le 6 courant (v.s.) de très-grand matin ; arrivés à Ste. Roumélie à 11 heures du soir, traversée effectuée sans encombre. Aussitôt le débarquement de la cargaison commencé, nous aperçûmes des vaisseaux ennemis qui se dirigeaient de notre côté. Nous nous éloignâmes promptement ; nous n'avions débarqué que le contenu de quatre canots, ni pris à notre bord que trois familles Crétoises et trente volontaires. Allés alors à Préveli ; là, mêmes empêchements. Comme le jour allait paraître nous poussâmes au large avec l'intention de revenir le lendemain.

Passé la journée derrière Gavdos ; à 9 heures du soir revenue à Ste. Roumélie.

Aussitôt fut signalé un vapeur Turc, le même qui, trois mois auparavant, avait bloqué "l'Arkadi" dans le port de Cerigotto.

Nous partîmes sur-le-champ ; le croiseur Turc fit quelques signaux pour avertir les autres, et ouvrit le feu contre nous. Deux milles nous séparaient de lui ; au bout d'une heure de marche, l'ennemi s'était approché de nous à une portée de fusil.

Alors nous ouvrîmes le feu à notre tour. Matelots et volontaires s'étaient armés et tiraient sans cesse.

A la hauteur de Souya nous rencontrâmes deux autres bâtiments qui nous attaquèrent aussitôt.

Nous n'avions pourtant point d'avaries, nous filions toujours ; comme nous doublions le Cap Crio, un boulet de "l'Izzeddin" vint briser notre roue de tribord qui cessa de tourner ; "l'Arkadi" ne pouvait plus marcher vite ; la destruction de la roue lui imprimait même un certain mouvement de relation.

Nous gouvernâmes alors sur "l'Izzeddin" qui en ce moment nous lâcha toute sa bordée de babord puis vint sur nous à toute vapeur ; nous évitâmes au tout que possible le choc, en obliquant, sans quoi nous étions coulés certainement.

La proue du bâtiment ennemi glissa sur notre flanc droit qu'elle abîma, puis les deux bâtiments se trouvèrent à côté l'un de l'autre et leurs tambours se touchaient.

En ce moment suprême l'équipage déploya une énergie et une bravoure remarquables ; ils s'armèrent tous de haches et s'élancèrent intrépidement sur les bastingages de "l'Izzeddin ;" mais, vu la grande hauteur de celui-ci trois de nos hommes seulement ont pu y entrer ; ils y périrent héroïquement.

Pendant un quart d'heure les deux vapeurs ont marché ainsi l'un près de l'autre ; on ne tirait plus ; l'ennemi était abasourdi. On n'apercevait rien sur le pont de "l'Izzeddin" ni sur la passerelle ; nous déchargeâmes nos carabines sur lui et il s'éloigna.

Voyant que notre bâtiment, fortement endommagé, pouvait couler et que nous allions nous trouver entre trois feux,—car deux autres croiseurs Turcs s'étaient rapprochés et s'apprêtaient à nous attaquer,—nous nous dirigeâmes vers la côte, après trois heures de combat, et nous échouâmes "l'Arkadi."

Après avoir débarqué les familles qui, l'ailleurs, n'avaient point souffert, les matelots et les volontaires débarquèrent à leur tour ; ils étaient tous armés. Nous avons mis le feu à "l'Arkadi" pour qu'il ne tombât pas au pouvoir de l'ennemi.

Nous avons perdu quatre matelots et dix volontaires ; sept autres matelots sont blessés.

Nous nous rendîmes ensuite à Omalos d'où je vous écris. J'attends vos ordres.

Omalos, le $\frac{12}{24}$ *Août,* 1867.

(Signé) A. COURENTI.

(Comité Central.)

(Translation.)

JUST as we were going to press, we heard some very circumstantial details of the loss of the "Arkadi." We have them from a worthy sailor, M. Demetrius Sava, who was on board the "Arkadi" when she was lost, in the capacity of master gunner:—

"On arriving at Gabdo we saw smoke at the top of a mountain; a few hours afterwards we again started for St. Roumélie; as we were leaving Gabdo we saw a red fire lighted on a less lofty mountain; it was soon put out; we thought it might very likely be a signal to warn the Turkish cruizers of our presence in these parts. At 9 o'clock P.M. (it was on Monday, August 19) we entered the roadstead of St. Roumélie; just as we were about to anchor, we perceived a Turkish steamer at a distance of about a mile; the steamer had just doubled Cape Crioumetopon, behind which it had lain hid, in consequence of the signals made from the tops of the mountains of Gabdo. As soon as we perceived this vessel we stood off from the cape. We had not started more than half-an-hour, when the above-mentioned steamer, which never ceased making signals to other Turkish vessels, with rockets and Bengal fire, came up with us; she immediately opened fire on us; we replied vigorously, making way all the time; the enemy's balls caused us no damage, but we already perceived three Turkish vessels bearing down on us. We continued to fly along swiftly, till at length a ball from the "Izzeddin" (for it was she) seriously damaged our starboard paddle-wheel, which made our progress much slower, and enabled the other cruizers to come up with us a little before midnight. However, a false manœuvre on the part of the "Izzeddin" brought her so close to the "Arkadi" that her bows ran into ours, and the two vessels were for a moment locked together. We ceased firing, and were about to throw ourselves into the "Izzeddin" and board her; she was a little higher than the "Arkadi," and it took us some minutes to climb up the "Izzeddin," which, in the interval, was enabled to disengage herself and sheer off. Then we had to sustain a naval conflict with all the cruizers which were pursuing us; this fight lasted more than an hour; whilst fighting we steered towards the shore, which we reached after passing through the midst of the enemy's vessels. There we ran the "Arkadi" on shore; we then set fire to her and fled on foot in the direction of Omalos. In this affair we lost some fifteen men, four of whom only belonged to the crew; and we also lost our effects. Our captain, M. A. Courenti, behaved all through like a brave and worthy sailor; he displayed remarkable ability and great sang-froid. During the whole action more than a thousand balls were fired by the two vessels, not counting the bullets which poured upon us as thick as hail."

Report of the Captain of the "Arkadi" to the Administrative Council of the Steam Navigation Company.

Left Syra on the 6th instant, very early; arrived at St. Roumélie at 11 P.M.; passage made without hindrance. Directly the unlading of the cargo was begun, we perceived some of the enemy's ships bearing down upon us. We sheered off promptly; we had only disembarked four boat-loads, and had only taken on board three Cretan families and thirty volunteers. Proceeded to Préveli; same impediments there. As day was about to break we made for open water, intending to return the next day.

Passed the day behind Gavdos; at 9 P.M. returned to St. Roumélie.

Immediately a Turkish steamer was sighted; the same which three months before had blockaded the "Arkadi" in the harbour of Cerigotto.

We left instantly: the Turkish cruizer made some signals to warn the others, and opened fire on us. We were two miles from her: in an hour the enemy had come within musket-shot of us.

Then we in turn began to fire. Sailors and volunteers had armed and kept on firing continually.

Off the hills of Souya we encountered two other vessels which immediately attacked us.

Still we were not injured, we continued to push on: as we were rounding Cape Crio, a ball from the "Izzeddin" broke our starboard paddle-wheel, which stopped going round; the "Arkadi" could no longer steam fast; the destruction of the wheel even imparted to her a certain amount of backward motion.

We then steered towards the "Izzeddin," who at this moment poured the whole of her larboard broadside into us, and then steamed at full speed at us; we avoided the shock as much as possible, otherwise we should certainly have been sunk.

The bow of the enemy's vessel slid along our starboard beam, which she stove in, and the two ships were then alongside one another, and their paddle-boxes were touching.

At this critical moment the crew displayed remarkable energy and daring; they all armed themselves with hatchets, and threw themselves into the "Izzeddin's" netting, but, in consequence of their great height, only three of our men succeeded in reaching them, and they perished there heroically.

For a quarter of an hour the two steamers went on close together; there was no more firing; the enemy was stupefied. Nothing was to be seen either on the deck or on the foot-bridge of the "Izzeddin;" we discharged our carbines into her, and she sheered off.

Seeing that our vessel was severely damaged and might sink, and that we should soon be between three fires,—for two other Turkish privateers had come close up and had joined in the attack,—we steered towards the coast, after fighting for three hours, and ran the "Arkadi" ashore.

After disembarking the families which, indeed, had not suffered at all, the sailors and volunteers in their turn left the vessel; they were all armed. We set fire to the "Arkadi," so that she should not fall into the power of the enemy.

We lost four sailors and ten volunteers; seven more sailors are wounded.

We subsequently went to Omalos, whence I am writing to you. I await your orders.

Omalos, August $\frac{12}{24}$, 1867.

(Signed) A. COURENTI.

No. 249.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 10.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, August* 24, 1867.

YOUR Lordship may already have learnt, by a telegram I forwarded through Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Athens on the 22nd instant, of the attack on the "Arkadi" by one of the Turkish cruizers.

I have now the honour to subjoin a statement of such particulars as I have been able to collect respecting that occurrence.

On the evening of the 19th instant, while the "Izzeddin" was lying at anchor off Gavdo Island, a steamer, soon after known to be the "Arkadi," was seen at some distance westward, and making towards the Sfakian coast. The "Izzeddin" at once got under full steam and chased her. Having got within range of the Hellenic clipper, the "Izzeddin" fired grape-shot, which, however, did not seem to produce any marked effect. The "Arkadi" next altered her course, and in doubling Cape Krio the iron-clad frigate "Mahmoudieh," with Vice-Admiral Ibrahim Pasha on board, and the corvette "Urtoghrout," both lying in Selinos Bay, proceeded to attack the "Arkadi." It was getting dark, and the blockade-runner gradually disappeared under the coast from her pursuers. The sudden twinkling of a light during this interval enabled the "Mahmoudieh" to fire several rounds, one of which, said to have been aimed by a Lieutenant, hit the "Arkadi" in the starboard paddle-wheel, which damaged her considerably. Meanwhile, the "Izzeddin" attempted to run her down at three-quarters of a mile off shore, and even to board her, but without effect.

The fight lasted two hours. Being disabled, and at the same time hard pressed by the Turkish cruizers, at last the "Arkadi" ran herself on shore in Stavros Bay, where she still remains stuck fast on a rock in about five feet water. The captain and the rest of the surviving crew (including, it is reported, two English engineers) and the volunteers succeeded in landing and have since gone up to Omalos. Boats having been sent off from the ships to the "Arkadi," a quantity of flour, ammunition, seven heavy brass cannon (rifled) of Belgian manufacture, a number of rifled muskets, revolvers, cutlasses, hatchets, &c., were seized and carried away to the flagship. One of the crew was found killed on board the "Arkadi;" another, severely wounded in the face, has been made prisoner. The "Izzeddin" had four killed and seven wounded, including her commander slightly. One of her brass guns burst during the engagement. Her bulwarks and funnel are somewhat shattered. None of the other ships present incurred any damages.

The "Arkadi" is being guarded by two Turkish ships, and two battalions of troops have been despatched from Canea to where the clipper is grounded. Her machinery is pronounced by competent officers as being in excellent condition, and valued no less

than 6,000*l.* sterling. No hopes are entertained of saving the rest of the ship, which is gutted on all sides. It will require at least one month to take the machinery out.

On the day previous (the 18th) a French frigate was seen embarking families on the Selinos coast. Two small steamers, also French, were in the offing. The "Izzeddin" left for Constantinople on the 21st.

The "Arkadi" had steamed out of Syra on Sunday morning last at 5 o'clock, on this her final voyage, having a full cargo of provisions and munitions of war, besides eighty volunteers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 250.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, September 14.)

(Télégraphique.) *Constantinople, le* 12 *Septembre*, 1867.

LE Gouvernement Impérial vient de prendre les mesures suivantes relativement à l'Ile de Crète :—

Sa Majesté le Sultan, confirmant les Proclamations antérieures, accorde encore une fois pleine et entière amnistie aux habitants de l'Ile de Crète. Tous ceux qui, compromis dans les événements, voudront rentrer aujourd'hui dans leurs foyers, et y rester tranquilles, en remettant leurs armes, jouiront de toute sécurité et protection. Un délai expirant le 20 Octobre est accordé aux volontaires étrangers pour quitter l'île à bord des bâtiments étrangers ou Ottomans à leur choix, et aucun obstacle ne sera non plus apporté au départ des indigènes qui voudraient s'expatrier avec leurs familles, à l'unique condition de se désintéresser de tout ce qu'ils peuvent avoir dans l'île et de ne pouvoir rétourner sans autorisation du Gouvernement Impérial. Les troupes Impériales continueront à maintenir la tranquillité sur les points qu'elles occupent, et toute poursuite sera suspendue dans le dit délai contre les étrangers et leurs compagnons indigènes dans les localités où ils se trouvent, si ce n'est en cas d'agression de leur part. Passé ce délai, ceux qui n'auraient pas profité de cette faveur n'auront plus le droit d'en jouir.

Le blocus est maintenu tout comme par le passé.

Détails par le courrier.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, September* 12, 1867.

THE Imperial Government has just taken the following measures respecting the Island of Crete.

His Majesty the Sultan, confirming foregoing proclamations, once more grants full and entire amnesty to the inhabitants of the Island of Crete. All those who have compromised themselves in recent events, and wish to return to their homes and remain there quiet, will enjoy every security and protection on laying down their arms. An interval, expiring on October 20, is granted for foreign volunteers to leave the island on board foreign or Turkish vessels according to their choice; neither will any obstacle be offered to the natives wishing to emigrate with their families, on the sole condition that they shall give up any interest they may have in the island, and shall not be able to return without the authority of the Imperial Government. The Imperial troops will continue to maintain tranquillity in the districts where they are posted; and, during the said period, all pursuit either of the foreigners or of their native comrades will be suspended in the localities in which they are, except in cases of aggression on their part. As soon as this period is over, those who have not taken advantage of this favour will no longer have the privilege of enjoying it.

The blockade is maintained as before.

Details by courier.

No. 251.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 14.)

My Lord, *Paris, September 12, 1867.*

M. DE LAVALETTE, in speaking to me to-day of the news which had reached him from Constantinople, stated that the Porte had refused to entertain the project of concluding an armistice between the Sultan's troops and the insurgents in Crete.

His Excellency remarked, that this was a perfectly natural conclusion to come to, as it was not to be expected that a Sovereign Power should consent to negotiate an armistice with those who were in rebellion against its authority.

While speaking on this subject, M. de Lavalette informed me, that all the French vessels-of-war, with the exception of one placed at the disposal of the Consul, had been ordered to leave Crete.

He then referred to a rumour which is in circulation to the effect that a Turkish man-of-war had hoisted French colours in order to induce the inhabitants to come to the shore to be taken off, and upon their doing so had fired upon them, killing and wounding several persons; and his Excellency said that he did not attach the least credit to this report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN FANE.

No. 252.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 20.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, September 11, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the orders mentioned as about to be sent to Omer Pasha have been drawn up and laid before the Sultan for his sanction. They are to the following effect:—

The Generalissimo is instructed to proclaim a general amnesty for the insurgents on their making their submission and laying down their arms. He is to grant a delay of six weeks to the volunteers and to such of the Cretans as may wish to quit the island, and is to afford them all facilities for their conveyance to any port which they may select, even to Greece. All Cretans so leaving will forfeit their rights of citizenship, and will not be allowed to return without special permission being previously obtained from the Porte. During the six weeks delay, the Turkish troops in Crete will abstain from attacking the insurgents, but will repel any attack on their part. The blockade will continue as heretofore.

This is in substance, and as nearly as possible, the tenour of the Porte's instructions to Omer Pasha, in accordance with the decision of the Council. The Grand Vizier expects to be able to despatch them to-day at the latest.

On my inquiring of Fuad Pasha yesterday particulars of the new institutions to be granted to Crete, he informed me that he had elaborated a complete administrative organization conceding privileges and immunities calculated to give full satisfaction to the orderly portion of the inhabitants. This work being now completed, had only to be laid before the Council for its consideration, and would then, if approved, be submitted for the sanction of the Sultan. The Cabinet Council is to be convened to-day.

No. 253.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received September 20.)

Sir, *Admiralty, September 20, 1867.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a copy of a letter dated the 1st instant from Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget, with copies of its inclosures, reporting the state of affairs in Candia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 253.

Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Caledonia*," *Porto Ferrajo, Elba, September* 1, 1867.

THEIR Lordships will observe by a perusal of the accompanying reports from Lieutenant Murray of the "Wizard," stationed at Candia, that the French and Russian vessels of war are actively engaged in the removal of distressed families from the Island to Greece, under orders from their respective Governments, though apparently in opposition to the views of the Generalissimo, Omar Pasha, and to the instructions he has received from Constantinople.

2. It will be seen that Lieutenant Murray is desirous of being allowed to render similar service to the Cretan families by removing them to places of security, but I have not considered it consistent with my duty to sanction any deviation from the course of strict neutrality enjoined by Her Majesty's Government in their Lordships' letter of the 3rd of January last, in which it was stated that such a proceeding had been interpreted by the Greek Government as an evidence of sympathy in the cause of Crete.

3. Their Lordships will instruct me in the event of its being desired to adopt any different policy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. PAGET.

Inclosure 2 in No. 253.

Lieutenant-Commander Murray to Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget.

My Lord, "*Wizard*," *Canea, July* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival off Canea, on the 27th instant, of a small French squadron under the command of Rear-Admiral Simon; he came here in execution of telegraphic orders from his Government to proceed along the coast of Crete, and remove families wherever they may be found without reference to Omar Pasha or the blockade.

The squadron, consisting of the frigate "La Renommée," avisoes "La Sentinelle" and "Promethée," accompanied by the Russian steamer "Bourbon," left the same night for Spinari Bay, on the west coast of the island, where a number of families are said to be waiting removal.

Previous to the arrival of Admiral Simon, the Russian Commodore Boutakoff, having received instructions to remove families, proceeded with two vessels to Sfakia, where he saw Omar Pasha, who said "I have no instructions from my Government regarding the removal of families, and if I had I would not allow it." The Commodore then quitted the coast and proceeded to Athens to telegraph the result. He informed me that the Turkish squadron, including an iron-clad (with Omer Pasha on board), was steaming slowly along the shore bombarding the caves and every nook capable of concealing any one; also that the caves at Tripiti (where on a former occasion he removed 1,200 persons) were scarcely recognisable, so much were they battered with shot.

Omer Pasha after having gained possession of Askifo and Kalakrati, moved on Anopolis, and by last accounts had penetrated as far as Agia Roumeli. Strange to say he has abandoned the former positions, although he had fought so hard to gain them; no one can tell the reason why, but it is surmised that his orders are to devastate the island as much as possible while he is able to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. MURRAY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 253.

Lieutenant-Commander Murray to Vice-Admiral Lord C. Paget.

My Lord, "*Wizard*," *Canea, August* 4, 1867.

UP to this day we have had no information regarding the French squadron. This morning, however, His Imperial French Majesty's ship "Promethée" arrived from Piræus with instructions to send on the "Phénis" (which vessel was ordered by telegraph

to repair to this place from Constantinople and await orders) to join the French Admiral at once on the south coast of Crete.

The captain of the "Promethée" informs me that after leaving Canea the squadron went to Sfakia, where Admiral Simon had an interview with Omer Pasha on board a Turkish frigate. His Highness objected most strongly to the removal of families, and said "If they did so they should also remove volunteers," which proposition was not attended to. The Admiral's orders are only to remove women and children and old men. On leaving Omer Pasha the squadron proceeded to Suia Bay where persons were sent to the mountains to inform families of the arrival of the French and Russian ships. After some delay the women and children came down and several thousand soon collected on the beach.

The embarkation scene is described by my informant (captain of "Promethée") as most distressing. When the boats were deeply laden (to their gunwales) and had shoved off, the women threw their children into the boats, then throwing themselves into the water were either picked up or drowned. Many lost their lives by their own anxiety to embark. The description given of these poor people is most deplorable, and, to quote my informant, "would make you weep."

Many of the women had come ten hours' march from the mountains, nearly naked, and their skins blistered by the sun—all of them were starving. The poor children looked like old men and women. About 2,000 were embarked, and over 3,000 remained behind. Of these about 700 have been removed by the Russian and Italian vessels. The French ships return for more when they are unloaded.

Of course I remain here until I have your Lordship's instructions, although I should much like to assist in this work of humanity. But, after all, it matters little who removes them, so long as they are conveyed beyond the reach of Mussulman barbarity. I have no authentic intelligence to communicate respecting the movement of troops; many wounded arrive here daily and they say there is hard fighting at Agia Roumeli.

I apprehend the English Government will take no steps towards assisting in the removal of families, but, should your Lordship give your permission, we might render a most grateful service (after the families have been removed) by cruizing round the island and receiving those who have been unable, through sickness or otherwise, to attend the summons of the foreign Powers.

In the towns of Candia, Retimo, and also in this town, there are organised fanatical bands who call themselves "Zoreda" (weazels), who leave the towns at night and murder any Christians they can lay their hands on.

I have, &c.
(Signed) P. J. MURRAY.

No. 254.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 21, 1867.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letter, of yesterday's date, and its inclosures containing intelligence from Crete, and, in reply, I am to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that he is of opinion that the orders for Her Majesty's ships not to remove refugees from Crete should continue to be observed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 255.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, August* 29, 1867.

I HAVE received from the Generalissimo the accompanying translation of two letters having reference to the insurrection in this island. The one is from the insurgent Captain Georgios Vardhadjiaki, addressed to M. Mitzotaki, the Russian Vice-Consul at Candia, giving a brief account of the state of some districts in Candia Province, as well as the prospects of the insurgents.

The other, addressed by the Proigumenos Gregorios to Captain Prokopi at Kallikrati, urges the insurgents to hold out, and to prepare the Cretans for the vote they

are to give when a Foreign Commission shall have arrived in Crete, in order to ascertain the popular wish respecting the future government of the island.

I have no remarkable occurrence to report this day in regard to Sfakia and the whole of Canea province.

The inclosed translation of a Report from Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino contains a brief account of the miserable state of that province, where murders are being committed daily, and with the greatest impunity.

The Vice-Consul at Candia informs me too, that at Asites, two aged Christians were assassinated not many days ago, by the Cretan irregulars; and three other Christians were similarly killed at St. Thomas, in the district of Monofatie.

Last week the Lakerda band made an onslaught on the Egyptian camp at Mirabello, killing twenty men, and wounding twenty-two. The latter have been transported to Candia town. Lakerda, who is a native of Hierapetro, was a notorious robber.

The Greek blockade-runner "Enosis" discharged a full contraband cargo with volunteers at Agia-Pelagia on the 26th instant, and took away upwards of 700 souls.

Early on the morning of the 24th, a number of insurgent families having been allured to the coast of Bali, at Phodeles, by the presence of what appeared to them to be a French ship come to remove them, were fired upon by the same. After the firing had ceased, the French colours were lowered, and the Ottoman flag hoisted in their stead.

Several women and children were killed or wounded, the rest managed to escape. The particulars of this outrage have been duly reported to the French Admiral Simon.

Orders have just been received by the commanders of Austrian ships of war in these waters to embark Cretan non-combatants, and remove them to Greece.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 255.

Captain Vardhadgiaki to M. Mitzataki.

(Traduction.) *Du Village Viano, le 7 Juin*, 1867.

NOUS avons reçu votre lettre par laquelle vous nous écrivez de vous renseigner sur les événements de nos districts ainsi que sur nos malheurs. Au troisième et quatrième combat, l'ennemi nous a occasionné une si grande ruine, que nous n'avons pas pu résister complètement. En même temps, les volontaires et les indigènes se sont dispersés, quelques uns sont allés à Kritza et Malès, d'autres ont couru pour rejoindre leurs familles, lesquelles, se sont concentrées à Viano.

Les chefs des volontaires et des indigènes y sont restés plus que deux heures, et, ils ont discûté leur départ, et en effet, immédiatement après ils sont partis; quelques uns des chefs indigènes de notre district les ont invité avec beaucoup d'instance de retourner, "Que nous reste-il plus, vous nous avez allumé un feu que nous ne pouvons pas l'éteindre nous seuls ont-ils dit!" Sur ces observations, tous les volontaires répondirent, "Il faut que nous retournions;" alors les chefs sont retournés, et ils ont jugé convenable que Coronéos et Visandios retournassent aussi. Le lendemain Korakas aussi est parti, en nous disant qu'il va réunir mille hommes, et il nous a laissé l'ordre de lui rassembler mille armes le jour suivant, Dimitracarakos, Petropoulakis, et tous les volontaires sont partis aussi. Nous vous informons donc, que les indigènes sont restés, seulement, sous les armes.

Une partie d'entre nous courent vers les côtes de l'ennemi, pour le voir comment il prend nos effets et les fait sortir des trous. Lasithi a été brûlé entièrement, le reste des hommes courent vers les rivages avec l'espoir de la probabilité d'apercevoir des vaisseaux pour sauver leurs familles.

Nous vous informons que depuis Kapétaniana jusqu'à Myrtos il y a plus de mille familles, nous vous prions au nom du Christ, et de son sang, et de son corps, afin que nos familles soient délivrées, et que nous autres mourrions sur le champ du combat pour la foi et pour la patrie. Vous savez que nous ne pouvons rien faire si nos familles ne partent pas d'ici, et que l'insurrection aussi ne peut pas être soutenue.

(Signé) GEORGHIOS VARDHADGIAKI.

(Translation.)

From the Village of Viano, June 7, 1867.

WE have received your letter in which you write to us for information respecting events in our districts, and our misfortunes. In the third and the fourth battle we suffered such damage from the enemy that we could not quite hold our own. At the same time the volunteers and the natives dispersed, some have gone to Kritza and Malès, others have hastened to rejoin their families, which are assembled at Viano.

The Chiefs of the volunteers and natives remained there for more than two hours, and debated as to the expediency of departing, and actually, immediately afterwards, went away: some of the native Chiefs of our district invited them, very pressingly, to return. They said, "What is there left for us? You have kindled a fire that we, alone cannot put out." Upon this, all the volunteers answered, "We must return;" then the Chiefs also returned, and it was judged right that Coroncos and Visandios should return also. The next day Korakos also went away, saying to us that he was going to assemble 1,000 men, and he left an order that 1,000 stand of arms should be collected; the next day Dimitracarakos, Petropoulakis, and all the volunteers also went away. We inform you, then, that only the natives remained under arms.

Some of us are making for the part of the coast in the hands of the enemy to see them taking our property and dragging it forth from the holes we have concealed it in. Lasithi has been completely burned; the remainder of the men are making for the beach in the hope of the probability of seeing vessels to save their families.

We inform you that between Capitaniana to Myrtos there are more than 1,000 families. We pray you in the name of Christ, his blood and his body, to save our families, and we will die on the battle-field for our faith and our country. You know we can do nothing if our families do not leave this, and that the insurrection also cannot be kept up.

(Signed) GEORGHIOS VARDHADGIAKI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 255.

M. Gregorios to Captain Prokapi.

(Traduction.) *Miriokéfala, le 21 Juin*, 1867.

DES Réprésentants de la part des Puissances arriveront bientôt, en Crête, pour demander à la population ce qu'elle veut; donc, prédisposez la population afin qu'elle dise qu'elle ne désire rien autre que, seulement l'union et la liberté. Moustapha viendra encore pour vous promettre des cadeaux de la part du Sultan. La Sublime Porte n'a pas promis, encore, aux Souverains parce qu'elle croit que dans peu de jours elle parviendra à étouffer l'insurrection en s'emparant de Sfakia.

Donc faites maintenant la plus grande concentration, afin qu'elle ne réussit pas comme avant hier. Aujourd'hui c'est l'heure que notre liberté sera acquise après tant de siècles d'esclavage, et, d'acquérir ce que nos aieux désiraient, de voir et n'ont pu le voir.

Le nouveau Consul de France a la mission de la part de son Gouvernement de suivre Omer lorsqu'il faira l'expédition à Sfakia, parceque le Sultan dit "que quelques voleurs Sfakiotes et étrangers combattent."

Donc, il faut une grande concentration et des préparatifs, et nous ne craignons pas.

L'incursion par mer, des batiments Turcs sera entreprise bientôt. Portez vous bien.

(Signé) GHRIGHORIOS PROIGHUMENOS.

(Translation.)

Miriokéfala, June 21, 1867.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Powers will soon arrive in Crete to ask the population what they want; therefore, predispose the population to say that they require nothing but union and liberty. Mustapha will come again to promise you presents from the Sultan. The Sublime Porte has not yet made any promise to the Sovereigns, because it believes that, in a few days, it will succeed in crushing the insurrection by the capture of Sphakia.

Concentrate yourselves as much as possible now, that it may not succeed as it did the day before yesterday. To-day is the hour when our liberty will be gained after so many centuries of servitude, and to gain that which our ancestors desired to see and could not see.

The new Consul of France is charged by his Government with the Mission of following Omer Pasha when he makes the expedition to Sfakia, because the Sultan says "some Sphakian thieves and foreigners are fighting."

Therefore, we need a great concentration of men and preparations; and we do not fear. The Turkish naval expedition will soon take place. Farewell.

(Signed) GHRIGHORIOS PROIGHUMENOS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 255.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, August* 26, 1867.

ON the $\frac{2nd}{14th}$ instant, the troops left the town, intimating to the Cretan Turks that any who wished it might follow them; these all returned in the evening.

On the $\frac{9th}{21s}$, a small sailing vessel arrived from Suda bringing the intelligence that the blockade-runner "Arkadi" had been destroyed by the Turkish cruizers at Elefonise with all her crew; great rejoicing took place on the occasion, the vessel dressed in colours, and the Cretan Turks collected a sum of money in the town for the crew of the vessel.

On the $\frac{10th}{22nd}$ instant the authorities summoned the widow of Georgio Mundrenake, who was murdered on the $\frac{2nd}{15th}$ of July last in the village of Metokia Franceskiano, with the pretence of finding out who was the murderer, and how she had been able to enter into the town.

On the same day a Christian landed proprietor was assasinated by some Turks while in his vineyard at the village Pékré.

On the $\frac{12}{24}$th instant more than 1,000 Turks went out of the town to collect valonea, carobs, and grapes from the surrounding country. Some of them, having advanced as far as Valsomenero, came up with a party of the insurgents, these latter, pursuing them, wounded two and carried off fifteen animals of burden.

The miserable and touching state of the Christian women and children in this town is beyond description and becomes worse and worse every day. They suffer severely from the want of a proper physician to attend upon the sick.

The pressure upon the Christian population in the neighbouring villages continues to exist, and the communications between the different districts throughout the Province of Retimo is interrupted and interdicted by the authorities.

On the 24th instant an old man of 100 years of age, called Narcondaki, arrived here from his village, Bistäyi of Amari, in order to see his son who is in the employ of a Turk, he was accompanied by his daughter and had a small basket of grapes with him; on arriving at the gates of the town he was refused admission and was not permitted to see his son.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 256.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, September* 9, 1867.

WITH reference to my report of the 24th ultimo, relative to the encounter between the "Izzeddin" and the "Arkadi," I have the honour further to state that the latter has at last, and with great difficulty, been taken off the rock on which she was stranded.

The blockade-runner has been very considerably damaged by the explosions that occurred soon after the ship had been grounded.

The decks, paddle-boxes, and the whole wood-work are burnt, but her machinery is in good condition. She was taken in tow into Suda Bay, on the morning of the 6th instant, amid the cheers of a Turkish multitude, the Serdar-Ekrem being also present. The removal of the "Arkadi" is due mainly to the exertions of the engineers of the Imperial squadron, who are all Englishmen; and, after having undergone some further repairs, the clipper will be towed up to Constantinople.

Barring a few insignificant skirmishes in Sfakia and Keramia Valley, hostilities have to all appearances been suspended on the island.

The "Enosis," Hellenic blockade-runner, continues to ply weekly between Syra and the coast of this island.

I am happy to add that sickness is very much on the decrease. Discontent is very generally expressed at the present exhausted state of the local Treasury.

All payments by the authorities have meanwhile been suspended, and with the exception of a few favoured ones in the upper grades of the service, the army, navy, and civil employés are in arrears of pay, averaging from eight to fourteen months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 257.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, September* 19, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th instant, I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Proclamation of Amnesty which has been sent to Omer Pasha for the purpose of being promulgated in the Island of Crete. It is coupled with an offer of a suspension of arms, which will expire on the 20th of October next (probably old style, therefore November 1st, new style).

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. BARRON.

Inclosure in No. 257.

Proclamation.

SA Majesté Impériale le Sultan, en confirmant sa promesse et ses proclamations antérieures, accorde encore une fois pleine et entière amnistie aux habitants de l'Ile de Crète, sans exception aucune. En conséquence, la vie et la propriété de tout individu étant assurées, nul ne pourra être poursuivi pour les actes dont il se serait rendu coupable, soit actuellement soit antérieurement, dans les événements de Candie. Toute sécurité et protection sera donc accordée par le Gouvernement Impérial à tous ceux qui, après avoir remis leurs armes aux autorités Impériales rentreraient dans leurs foyers et s'y occuperaient de leurs affaires d'une manière tranquille et honnête.

Le Gouvernement Impérial, uniquement mû par le désir sincère d'empêcher l'effusion du sang, accorde aux étrangers armés qui se trouvent dans l'île, ainsi qu'aux indigènes qui, entraînes par eux, sont actuellement en état de révolte, un délai définitif d'un mois et demi, expirant le 20 Octobre prochain. Durant ce délai, les autorités Impériales procureront toutes les facilités nécessaires au départ de l'île, des étrangers, qui pourront, à leur choix, s'embarquer à bord des navires étrangers ou de ceux qui seront mis à leur disposition par le Gouvernement Impérial. Aucun obstacle ne sera non plus apporté au départ des indigènes qui voudraient quitter l'île et il leur est accordé l'autorisation d'émigrer avec leurs familles à la seule et unique condition de se désintéresser de tout ce qu'ils peuvent avoir dans l'île et de ne pouvoir y retourner, sans une autorisation spéciale du Gouvernement Impérial.

Durant le délai susmentionné d'un mois et demi, les troupes Impériales continueront à maintenir la tranquillité publique sur tous les points et les rayons qu'elles occupent. Afin que les étrangers et leurs compagnons indigènes puissent profiter de l'autorisation et de la faveur qui leur sont accordées, ils ne seront point poursuivis dans les localités où ils se trouvent, à moins toutefois que les étrangers ou leurs compagnons indigènes ne viennent attaquer les troupes Impériales ou assaillir la population soumise, auquel cas les troupes Impériales se mettront à leur poursuite pour les réduire. De même, si à l'expiration du délai, ils persistent à rester dans l'île, la faveur qui leur est accordée leur sera retirée et il sera recouru à leur égard à l'emploi de la force.

L'état de blocus est entièrement maintenu. La croisière continuera à défendre aux bâtiments de transporter sur le littoral de la Crète des hommes et des munitions.

(Translation.)

HIS Imperial Majesty the Sultan, in confirming his promise and his former proclamations, still offers a full and complete amnesty to the inhabitants of the Island of Crete, without any exception. Consequently, the life and property of every individual being assured, no one can be prosecuted for acts, during the events in Candia, of which he might have been guilty, either at that time or at a previous date. Therefore, all security and protection will then be given by the Imperial Government to all those who, after having given up their arms to the Imperial authorities, return to their hearths and occupy themselves with their own affairs, in a quiet and honest manner.

The Imperial Government, solely from a sincere desire of preventing the shedding of blood, grants to the strangers under arms in the island, as also to the natives who, led away by them, are actually in a state of revolt, a definitive delay of one month and a half, expiring on the 20th of October next. During this delay, the Imperial authorities will procure all the facilities requisite for the departure of strangers from the island, who will be able at choice either to embark on board foreign ships, or on those placed at their disposal by the Imperial Government. No obstacle will any longer be offered to the departure of the natives who may wish to quit the island; and they are authorized to emigrate with their families on this only and sole condition, that they will cease to have interests in all they may possess in the island, and that they will be unable to return without a special authorization from the Imperial Government.

During the delay above-mentioned of a month and a half, the Imperial troops will continue to maintain the public peace at all the points and circles which they occupy, in order that strangers and their native companions may profit by the authorization and favour which is granted them; they will not be pursued in the localities where they are, unless the strangers or their companions attack the Imperial troops, or assault the population which has submitted, in which case the Imperial troops will pursue them to subdue them. In the same manner, if they persist in remaining in the island, at the expiration of the delay, the favour which is granted them will be withdrawn, and recourse will be had to the employment of force.

The blockade is completely maintained. The cruizer continues to forbid to vessels the transport of men and munitions to the Cretan coast.

No. 258.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 28.)

My Lord, *Athens, September* 19, 1867.

THE French ship "Rolland" brought the other day to the Piræus 600 Cretans, and the two Russian ships which arrived yesterday had 1,150 Cretans on board, of which 150 were men.

From a letter which I have seen, and which was written by a Hungarian who has been for some time in Crete, living among the insurgents, it would seem that the Cretans are much demoralized, and weary of a struggle which they believe to be hopeless; and he describes them as wishing for an armistice as the only means of saving them from their miserable state. The hatred which the Cretans bear to the Sfakiotes is almost greater, he says, than their known hatred of the Mussulman Cretans, as these latter, though they have done them great injury, have at least done so openly. He states the number of volunteers and insurgents under arms at less than 1,000, but probably the number is now still less, as since the date of that letter, the 9th, many have come away, and the Austrian gun-boat "Wall" brought away 250 volunteers. The Cretans appear to have enough meat, but (and this is of more importance to them) very little bread, and most of it unwholesome; and they are greatly in want of clothing.

This I believe to be a true account of the state of the Cretans; but I regret to say that from here the insurgents are encouraged and advised to prolong a hopeless struggle, in the hope that later on an opportunity may be found to make an attack on Turkey.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES AGAR ELLIS.

No. 259.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, September 16, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a Report just received from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, informing me that the insurgents still muster in force at Pediada, Mirabello, and Lasithe, and that in consequence the troops stationed at St. Barbara have been despatched to those districts.

The Turco-Egyptian force at St. Barbara numbered about 4,000.

It will be seen also that Malevese and Temenos continue to be in a state of revolt.

Mr. Consular Agent Calocherino gives a less gloomy account of the actual condition of the Province of Retimo than has been the case since the outbreak on the island. Inclosed is a translation of his Report.

Adverting to Canea Province, I have only to remark that a division commanded by Mehmet Pasha made a reconnaissance to Skineh last week. Small bands of insurgents are lurking in various parts and murders are of frequent occurrence. At Komitades, in Sfakia, an encounter has taken place with the troops.

The French ships of war which had recently ceased removing Cretan families to Greece have received orders to resume that service; and the "Rolland," corvette, accordingly steamed out of Suda Bay the day before yesterday bound to Sfakia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 259.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, September 9, 1867.*

AFTER my Report of the 26th ultimo concerning the firing against the Christian families at Phodeles Bay by a Turkish war-steamer under French colours, which is unfortunately but too much confirmed, I have the honour to state to you that the Turkish troops stationed at Ayia Varvara are proceeding to the districts of Pediada, Mirabello, and Lasithe, where the insurgents are very numerous.

The said troops are now commanded by Hassan Pasha, Reshid Pasha being at present ill, who, as it appears, has very much suffered on his return from Sfakia.

I have learnt from various Turks that a certain Heraclis Kokinidis, who commands a portion of the insurgents in the districts of Malevesi and Temenos, has allowed the Turkish peasants (though he had the power to prevent them) to go and collect their grapes and other produce, forbidding them to pillage; and after that, as a reward, the Turks in his absence have pillaged and burnt his oil factory as well as many houses belonging to him. This act of ingratitude on the part of the Turks has caused reprisals on the part of the said Heraclis, who, consequently, has burnt a part of the Turks' property.

The state of the Turco-Egyptian troops does not appear very satisfactory, as there is a large number of sick, which is caused, as it is stated, on account of the expedition to Sfakia.

The Commander of the insurgents at the fight in Mirabello on the 20th ultimo was not Lakerda, as I then informed you, but a certain Constantine Cosiri, from the above-mentioned district. After that engagement the Turco-Egyptian troops retreated to the village Milato, near Pediada, and on the night of the 7th instant the insurgents surprised again the Turco-Egyptian troops, but the details are yet unknown.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 259.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dunlop.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, September 9, 1867.*

I HAVE nothing of interest to report since my No. 24, except that recently two Ottomans were murdered by Christians at the spring of Castello, where the former had

gone to gather grapes. Regular troops occasionally leave this town and proceed as far as the villages of Armenos and Ambelaki, always returning in the course of the day.

The Kaimakam Bey has paid a visit to all the distressed families in the town.

Yesterday a band of insurgents appeared at Atzipopoulo, endeavouring to levy a contribution on the inhabitants of 6,000 piastres. These latter replied that on the 15th instant they would pay the half, and the remainder after fifteen days. Various native Turks in this town having been informed of the same, proceeded to the spot, and drove the insurgents away, who were few in number. The authorities having arrested two of the principal inhabitants of this village, examined one of them, and then liberated him; the other not consenting to be examined, has been retained and put in irons.

The importation into the town of carobs and valonea has from to-day been prohibited by the authorities, and individuals bringing these articles have been sent back to their villages with the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 260.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 30.)

(Extract.) *St. Petersburgh, September* 24, 1867.

WHEN I saw Prince Gortchakoff yesterday, he expressed much dissatisfaction with the declarations of the Porte relative to Crete.

He also repeated his old arguments in favour of the annexation of the island to Greece, urging that it occupied an exceptional position. I said, I could only repeat to him what I had often said, namely, that the Porte believed the measure he recommended would initiate the dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire, and that therefore they could not be expected willingly to adopt it.

No. 261.

Mr. Fane to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 4.)

(Extract.) *Paris, October* 3, 1867.

AT an interview I had with M. de Moustier to-day his Excellency said, that the Imperial Government had intimated to the Porte their great regret that the advice tendered to them by the French and other Governments had been rejected; but that in view of the Sultan's distinct declaration that he would not accede to the proposed inquiry into Cretan affairs, the French Government would not persist in demanding it, but would wait to see what steps the Sultan's Government would take in the matter of their own accord. The reply of the Porte, his Excellency said, was that the inquiry into the state of Crete would be conducted by the Government of the Sultan itself; and in order to prove the serious nature of this inquiry, and the importance attached to it, the Grand Vizier would himself form the head of the Commission.

Under these circumstances, M. de Moustier said that he was disposed to wait and see what ameliorations in the government of the island were contemplated by the Turkish Government.

Upon my informing M. de Moustier of Mr. Elliot's presence in Paris, and of his wish to pay his respects to him, M. de Moustier expressed the pleasure with which he would receive Mr. Elliot, and appointed an interview for to-morrow morning, at which he hoped that M. de Bourrée would also be present.

No. 262.

Mr. Ellis to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 7.)

My Lord, *Athens, September* 26, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra reporting the details which have been given of the loss of the "Arkadi" by the three English engineers on board.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JAMES AGAR ELLIS.

Inclosure in No. 262.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Ellis.

Sir, *Syra, September* 20, 1867.

YOU are, I believe, aware that the remainder of the crew of the "Arkadi," including the three engineers, British subjects, Messrs. Jones, Cowley, and Erskine, have been brought away from Crete, and that they are now returned to Syra.

It would appear that from the fatigue and privations they have undergone, the unhealthiness of Agia Roumeli, and the sudden change of diet, the engineers, as well as the crew, were, with few exceptions, ill when they left Crete; and those who were not so fell sick on their arrival at Milo or here, the night of the 22nd of August, coming last from Nauplia, whither the Cretan families received at the same time had been taken.

I have now the honour to inform you that yesterday I went to see the engineers. They were all three ill of fever, but I believe in a fair way of recovery. I saw each separately in his own dwelling, and from the weak state they were in I did not question them much, but I gathered from what they said the following facts, namely:—

That the account given of the engagement with the "Izzedin" by the Captain, Curenti, in his published Report, dated Omalos, is correct. That on leaving the Island of Gandi for Agia Roumeli, on Monday eve the 19th August, a dense column of black smoke, evidently from a coal fire, was seen ascending from the top of a hill on Gandi Island. That the French vessel of Admiral Simon was also seen by them at Agia Roumeli the same day, namely, the night of the combat. That the iron-clad Turkish vessel did take part in the fight, firing repeatedly on the "Arcadi." That the starboard wheel of the "Arkadi" being totally disabled by a ball of the "Izzedin," which broke the eccentric only, the engines being untouched, the speed of the vessel was so diminished that it was impossible to hope to escape. That the captain having come down from the bridge to ascertain the damage, and consulted with the engineers and his officers, then and therefore determined to run the vessel ashore. That but for the accident the engineers think that they might have managed to escape. That the engines being only first slowed to see how they worked, and finding no impediment but the drag of the injured wheel, full speed was again put on. That the "Arkadi" was scarcely at all injured by the collision with the "Izzedin," which struck her very obliquely. That a shot having passed through the "Arkadi's" bows, above water line, the vessel being built with four water-tight compartments, a cry was raised the vessel was sinking, when three or four of the crew attempting to lower a boat into which they, as well as several of the returned volunteers (taken on board at Agia Roumeli on the eve of Sunday the 18th August), had got, while the vessel was going as fast as she could then go, were upset and drowned. That the crew left the "Arkadi" as soon as she struck by clambering down over the bows, fears being entertained that the boats, with the crews of the "Izzedin" and the iron-clad, might land and prevent them leaving the "Arkadi," or cut off their retreat inland. That nothing was done in order to destroy the "Arkadi" by exploding the boilers, which would have taken but a few minutes only to ensure, because no orders were given to that effect, not even to stop the engines; and that had the engines being stopped, the vessel having struck on her bows on a rock only, there being deep water towards the sea, she might have slid off backwards, so that the engines were going some time after the crew had all left. That it probably never occurred to the captain (who from Nauplia went to Piræus, where he is still) to order the safety valves to be secured, and a portion of water let out of the boilers, and the fires to be trimmed, nor to start the guns overboard before reaching the shore or leaving the vessel. That all praise is due to Captain Curenti for his conduct, being always at his post on the bridge, except when he left to see the damage done to the starboard paddle-wheel, and calm, cool, and collected throughout the two and a-half or three hours that elapsed from being first chased by the "Izzedin," to running the vessel ashore and landing the crew. That the engineers left with the clothes only they had on at the time. That the natives of the neighbouring districts having a Convention with the Turks not to be molested if they kept quiet, dare not harbour the crew of the "Arkadi," and that therefore they were obliged to push on to Omalos, the nearest place they calculated to find security in. That after three days of suffering from lameness and sore feet (their shoes being reduced to shreds in a few hours), hunger, and cold, they reached Omalos, where they remained till they heard of a foreign Government vessel being at Agia Roumeli, and in which they hoped to get away. That they started for the purpose, but suffering as they were, the night being dark, and the road so dangerous, when they got to Agia Roumeli the vessel was gone. That being too tired to return back they eventually fell ill of fever and rheumatism, and if they would they could

not have returned. That they remained there twelve days, during which time they were repeatedly shot at by the Turkish vessels which passed, and being provoked by the Cretans and volunteers, who fired at the Turkish vessels with their rifles whenever they thought them near enough to be hit, and waving their caps at them in defiance, and which was always answered with shells from the vessels. That during their stay in the island also Captain Curenti never left them, and shared with them whatever he himself had or could procure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 263.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 8.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, September* 20, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Generalissimo has issued a Proclamation, of which the inclosed is a translation, announcing that a general pardon is again granted to the Cretans, without exception. Assurances are given that past offences shall be forgiven; and the inhabitants are urged to give up their arms to the Government, each man to resume his peaceable occupations.

To such of the Cretan and foreign volunteers as have not yet surrendered a term of one month and a-half, namely, up to the 1st of November next, is granted to facilitate their departure from the island.

Permission is given to Cretans to emigrate with their families, but if any wish to return, a special licence will be required from the Imperial Government.

During this armistice the Imperial troops will continue to hold their present positions and encampments; and natives and foreigners will be equally allowed to remain where they are at present, so long as they do not attack the Imperial troops, or molest the peaceable inhabitants. At the expiration of the armistice force will be again used against such of the malcontents as shall not have submitted and are still on the island.

The regulations relative to the blockade of the Cretan Coast remain in full operation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 263.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

A GENERAL pardon is hereby again granted on the part of His Majesty the Sultan to all the inhabitants of the Island of Crete, without exception. Hence, the lives and property of all shall be secure; nobody shall be called to account either for past or present misdeeds; and whosoever will deliver up his arms to the Government and return to his village, in order to dwell in his home and lead an honest and peaceable life, the same will enjoy the confidence and protection of the Imperial Government.

Such of the inhabitants who, together with foreigners in arms, are still to be found on the Island of Crete, and have not yet submitted, and in our sincere desire to prevent all further effusion of blood, to them is now granted a fixed term of one and month a-half, namely, up to the 20th October next (November 1st), during which time officers of the Imperial Government will afford every facility to the departure of all the said foreigners from the island. These men can embark on board foreign ships, or, if they please, the Imperial Government would offer to convey them away in its own vessels.

All those Cretans who may be desirous of quitting the island and emigrating with their families can do so, and no obstacle whatever will be thrown in their way; yet they must in that case settle definitely their affairs, and they will not be allowed to return without special permission from the Imperial Government.

With a view to the due maintenance of order on the spot during the above stated term of one month and a-half, the Imperial troops will occupy the same positions they now hold, and their encampments. The foreigners, natives, and their followers, who, availing themselves of this last act of grace, yet wish to remain in the places they at present occupy will not be molested in any way by the Imperial troops. If, however, they should attack the Imperial troops, or harm the peaceable inhabitants of the island, the Imperial troops will then proceed to fight and severely punish them. But if at the expira-

tion of the specified time these malcontents shall not have submitted, and are still remaining on the island, they will forfeit the Imperial goodwill, and force will be again used against them.

The regulations respecting the blockade are to remain in full force. Ships carrying volunteers and munitions of war will be chased and liable to seizure.

At Canea, the 19th Jemazi-ul-evvel, 1284 (September $\frac{5}{17}$, 1867).

No. 264.

Mr. Barron to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 10.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October* 1, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that Aali Pasha has been commanded by the Sultan to proceed to Crete for the purpose of putting into execution the new administrative reforms lately elaborated. His Highness is to leave to-morrow on the Imperial yacht "Sultanie."

During the absence of the Grand Vizier, which is expected to last for several weeks, Fuad Pasha will execute the duties of this office under the title of Kaimakam, or Deputy Grand Vizier.

Aali Pasha is to be accompanied by Cabouli Pasha, a Member of the Grand Council of Justice, by Mahmoud Bey, and by three Christian gentlemen, Savas Effendi, Costaki Adassides, and Alecco Effendi, who are attached to the Mission, and by the chief editor of the journal "La Turquie."

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. T. BARRON.

No. 265.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, September* 28, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your Lordship's information, the nationality and names of all the foreign ships of war employed in conveying Cretan families from various parts of this island to Greece during the present quarter:—

French frigate "La Rénommée" (Vice-Admiral Simon's flag-ship).
French corvette "Rolland."
French despatch-boat "La Sentinelle."
French despatch-boat "La Prométhée."
Russian frigate "Alexander Nevski" (Commodore Boutakoff's flag-ship).
Russian corvette "Mercury."
Russian gun-boat "Bonabori."
Austrian frigate "Radetzky."
Austrian gun-boat "Wall."
Austrian gun-boat "Villebich."
Italian despatch-boat "Authion."
Italian despatch-boat "La Sirena."
Prussian gun-boat "Blitz."

I may add that the "Swatara," United States' corvette, arrived here last month with instructions to remove families, subject to the approval, however, of the Turkish authorities. Permission was neither asked nor have any Cretans been embarked on board the American ship.

The localities to which the above-specified ships principally repaired for the embarkation of refugees were the coasts of Selinos, Sfakia, and St. Vassili, Phodeles Bay, Bali, and Armyro Bay. A number of insurgent volunteers have been equally carried back to Greece, chiefly by Austrian ships; and the "Wall" took the remainder of the "Arkadi's" crew, including the captain and three (English) engineers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 266.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 15.)

My Lord, *Athens, October 5, 1867.*

THE Russian flag-ship in these waters, "Alexander Newsky," arrived yesterday at the Piræus from Crete, with upwards of 1,000 refugees on board, chiefly women and children. She, however, brought also about 100 Greek volunteers, whose appearance is said to have been most deplorable, and bore testimony to the severe privations they have recently undergone.

M. Boutakoff, who is in command of the Russian naval forces, with the rank of Commodore, does not, I understand, in this instance, speak in the confident tone he has hitherto adopted of the prospects of the insurrectionary cause in Crete.

An Italian corvette has also, within the last day or two, landed between 100 and 200 women and children in Greece; and the officer who commands her has informed the Italian Minister that he fell in with at least 800 insurgents, both Cretans and Hellenes, who were most desirous to leave the country, but were precluded from doing so by the instructions under which the captain of the Italian corvette was acting.

It is announced here that the marriage of His Hellenic Majesty with the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia will be solemnized at St. Petersburgh on the 22nd instant, and that the King will set out almost immediately afterwards for Greece with his young bride.

The Chamber will meet on the 7th instant, without any speech from the Throne; but I am informed by M. Coumoundouros that it is his intention to make a statement to the Chamber as to the policy hitherto pursued by his Government, and their intentions for the future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 267.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, October 15.)

(Télégraphique.) *Constantinople, le 13 Octobre, 1867.*

VOUS savez qu'à la suite de faux bruits de massacres et de persécutions en Crète, quelques Puissances avaient envoyé des bâtiments pour recueillir les familles Crétoises. Cette mesure, dictée aux Puissances par un sentiment d'humanité, ne pouvait cependant qu'encourager la lutte. Aussi le Gouvernement Impérial s'est-il fait dès cette époque un devoir de protester. Aujourd'hui que le Sultan a proclamé l'amnistie, qu'il a confié au Grand Vizir une mission réparatrice, que l'application d'une réorganisation administrative, basée sur les principes les plus libéraux, va donner à la Crète les plus sérieuses garanties de prospérité, le transport des familles devient plus que jamais une anomalie et un encouragement indirect aux auteurs des troubles de Crète. En effet, les volontaires Hellènes ne voyant qu'une intervention en leur faveur dans une mesure qui débarrasse l'île de tout ce qui ne peut porter les armes, ont recours aux menaces, à la dévastation des villages et des plantations d'oliviers pour contraindre les habitants paisibles à embarquer leurs femmes et leurs enfants. La Sublime Porte, admettant même la générosité des mobiles qui font agir les Puissances, ne peut leur cacher aujourd'hui que leur action engendre des résultats contraires à la pensée humanitaire qui l'a dictée. S'il existe des familles à sauver de la misère, ce sont nos expatriés, 20,000 malheureux, jetés jusqu'ici sur les côtes de la Grèce, et qui sont autant de témoins pour démentir devant l'Europe les atrocités qu'on a accusé les autorités Impériales de commettre en Crète. Le Gouvernement Impérial se voit donc réduit à protester de nouveau contre l'embarquement des familles de Crète, et il insiste aujourd'hui plus que jamais pour le faire cesser.

Vous êtes autorisé à communiquer ce qui précède au Ministre du Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité.

(Translation.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, October 13, 1867.*

YOU are aware that after the false reports of massacres and persecutions in Crete, some of the Powers sent vessels of war to take off the Cretan families. This measure,

dictated to the Powers by a feeling of humanity, could not but encourage the struggle, and from that date the Imperial Government made it a point of duty to protest against it. Now that the Sultan has proclaimed an amnesty, and that he has entrusted to the Grand Vizier a mission calculated to redress wrongs, and that the application of an administrative organization, based on the most liberal principles, is about to give to Crete the most serious guarantees of prosperity, the carrying away of these families becomes more and more an anomaly, and an indirect encouragement to the authors of troubles in Crete. In fact, the Greek volunteers, seeing an intervention in their favour in this measure, which clears the island of all those who cannot carry arms, have recourse to menaces, to the devastation of villages and olive groves, to compel the peaceable inhabitants to embark their women and their children. The Sublime Porte, while admitting the generosity of the motives which influence the Powers, cannot now hide from them that their action begets results contrary to the humane thought which dictates it. If there are families to be saved from misery, they are our unhappy 20,000 banished ones thrown up to this time on the coasts of Greece, and who are so many witnesses to deny before Europe the atrocities which they accuse the Imperial authorities of committing in Crete. The Imperial Government, therefore, are reduced to protest against the embarkation of families from Crete, and they persevere more than ever now in their efforts to stop it.

You are authorized to communicate the above to the Minister of the Government to which you are accredited.

No. 268.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 19.)

My Lord, *Athens, October 9, 1867.*

THE Chamber of Deputies was opened on the 7th instant by Royal Decree, but no business will be transacted until after the election of the President, which will afford an opportunity of testing the strength of the Opposition.

Her Majesty's Consul at Syra has reported to me that the blockade-runner "Enossis" left that port for Crete on the morning of the 5th instant, and returned on the following day with 130 persons on board whom she had embarked at Suja, on the south-western coast of the island. Forty-five of these were volunteers, and the rest women and children. The "Enossis" fell in with no Turkish cruizers either going or returning.

The Prussian gun-boat "Blitz" has received instructions to re-commence taking on board persons desirous of emigrating from Crete, and left the Piræus last night for that purpose, viâ Syra.

The Russian Commodore will also leave the Piræus to-morrow with two of the vessels under his command on the same service; and he assures me that large numbers of distressed persons are to be found near the shore in almost every part of the island, waiting to embark.

There is as yet no symptom of any disposition on the part of the people or Government of this country to abandon the attempt to annex Crete to Greece.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 269.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 19.)

My Lord, *Athens, October 10, 1867.*

THE Greek newspapers have recently published a Decree of the so-called Cretan National Assembly, authorizing the formation of a squadron under Cretan colours; calling upon adventurers belonging to any Christian nation to equip and arm vessels to form part of this squadron; and finally establishing a blockade of all forts or other places occupied by Turkish troops in the Island of Crete.

As I do not perceive that Mr. Consul Dickson has as yet forwarded this document to your Lordship, I herewith transmit translated copies thereof, which are extracted from this day's number of the "Grèce" newspaper.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure in No. 269.

Decree of the so-called Cretan National Assembly.

MM. les Consuls, *Vafé d'Apocorona, le $\frac{15}{27}$ Septembre*, 1867.

LE Gouvernement Ottoman, par une Proclamation en date du 5 du mois, adressée au peuple Crétois, essaie de nouveau de le tromper par les moyens perfides qui lui sont habituels, et le conduire à la soumission, comme s'il ignorait, depuis déjà plus d'une année, la résolution ferme et inébranlable des Crétois, qui dans mille circonstances sous le coup d'immenses sacrifices, peu nombreux, contre des armées entières, sans aucune autre ressource que leurs propres forces, luttent contre celles de la Turquie et de l'Egypte. Fermes et décidés, ils ont persisté et ils persistent encore, à combattre les tyrans de l'humanité, les ennemis du Christianisme et de la liberté, les croyans du Coran, les fidèles sectateurs des massacres, des iniquités, et de la barbarie.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman, ne prenant nullement en considération les maux que les Crétois ont soufferts et souffrent encore avec tant d'abnégation et d'héroisme, pour recouvrer leur liberté, croit qu'il lui suffit de répéter la concession d'amnistie générale à ceux qui se soumettraient, confiants dans la foi du Gouvernement Impérial, tandis que, d'un autre côté, il menace de destruction ceux qui ne prêteraient pas une oreille attentive à ses conseils, et ne se hâteraient pas de profiter de l'occasion qui leur est offerte de quitter leur patrie en s'embarquant à bord des bâtiments Turcs. Heureusement, la bienveillance des Grandes Puissances dispense la Sublime Porte d'une peine pareille en sauvant depuis longtemps, sur un terre libre, non les combattants de la foi et de la patrie, mais leurs chers et faibles femmes et enfants, ces victimes de la barbarie et de la lacheté, cette proie des armées Impériales.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie, interprétant les sentiments et la résolution du peuple Crétois, sentiments qu'il prouve, chaque jour, par ses actes, et voulant épargner l'effusion du sang et les maux sans nombre du peuple de Candie, a considéré comme un devoir de s'adresser de nouveau à l'humanité des Puissances Protectrices, et d'invoquer leur ferme et immédiate intervention pour obtenir la cessation des hostilités, l'envoi d'une Commission Internationale, et l'emploi du vote universel, afin de résoudre la question Crétoise. C'est par ces moyens seulement qu'on pourra obtenir la pacification de l'île, car la Sublime Porte fait des efforts en pure perte, si elle croit qu'elle pourra jamais parvenir à soumettre le peuple du Crète par le dol, la perfidie, la violence, et la destruction.

En portant à votre connaissance ce qui est sus-énoncé, nous espérons, MM. les Consuls, que vous voudrez bien le prendre en considération sérieuse, en le communiquant aussi à vos Gouvernements respectifs.

Agréez, &c.
Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Candie,
(L.S.) (Signé) MICAEL TZOUDEROS.
A. TSICHLIS.
A. MANOUSSELIS.
M. KYRIAKIDES.
N. NICOLOUDAKIS.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.
A. PAPAGIANNAKIS.

Le Sécrétaire,
(Signé) CHAR. M. PAPADAKIS.

MM. les Consuls, *Vafé d'Apocorona, le $\frac{15}{27}$ Septembre*, 1867.

Nous vous prions de soumettre à vos Gouvernements respectifs les deux pièces ci-jointes: le Décret de l'Assemblée Générale des Crétois, et l'Ordonnance qu'il a provoquée concernant la formation d'une escadre portant pavillon Crétois.

Agréez, &c.
Le Gouvernement Provisoire des Crétois.
(Suivent les signatures.)

L'Assemblée Général des Crétois—

Considérant, qu'après l'abolition solennel sur l'île et ses dépendances des droits souverains du Sultan, et après la lutte inégale, constante et destructive que soutient le peuple de Crète, la Sublime Porte persiste, contre toute justice, à violer ouvertement le principe des nationalités, qui est le seule espoir des nationalités Chrétiennes opprimées par les partisans du Coran;

Considérant que quoique les véritables maîtres de l'île aient d'une voix unanime aboli les prétendus droits de conquête de leurs tyrans, la Turquie cherche par le nombre de ses pyroscaphes et de ceux de l'Egypte à perpétuer ses actions monstrueuses, en faisant transporter dans cette île des armées Impériales et Egyptiennes pour la soumettre une autre fois à la domination des Turcs ;

Considérant de toute nécessité et de toute utilité de montrer sur mer aussi le pavillon de la révolution Crétoise, afin d'empêcher, par le blocus de l'île, les renforts que reçoit l'armée ennemie d'y arriver et de mettre un terme à la dévastation et à la ruine de cette grande île Chrétienne ;—

Décrète :

1. Une escadre composée de quatre goëlettes, de six grands bâteaux à rames, d'un certain nombre de vaisseaux de toute grandeur, sera formée pour bloquer étroitement la Crète.

2. Cette escadre pourra être augmentée, si les circonstances ou les besoins du blocus l'exigent, par la vigilance et les soins du Gouvernement Provisoire.

3. Les vaisseaux de blocus de la révolution Crétoise porteront un pavillon blanc avec bandes rouges au milieu dessinant une croix sur laquelle on lira le mot " Crète " en grandes lettres Helléniques.

4. Le Gouvernement Provisoire est chargé de la prompte exécution du présent Décret et de la nomination du Commandant de l'escadre de blocus.

Donné à Alicambo d'Apocorona, le $\frac{10}{22}$ Septembre, 1867.

(Suivent les signatures des Membres de l'Assemblée Générale des Crétois.)

Au nom de Sa Majesté Georges I, Roi des Hellènes.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Crète,

Prenant en considération le Décret de l'Assemblée Générale, en date du 22 Septembre, et sachant que toute nation ou tout peuple, se trouvant en état de guerre, a le droit de faire usage de tout moyen légitime pour affaiblir les forces de ses ennemis, et le forcer à mettre un terme à l'effusion du sang humain, ce droit étant surtout incontestable lorsque la lutte est inégale et injuste contre un peuple soulevé contre ses tyrans pour briser ses chaines ; et

Depuis un an déjà la tyrannie Turque, furieuse contre le peuple Chrétien de Crète, cherche à le faire disparaître de la surface de la terre, en égorgeant férocement les faibles femmes, les vieillards et les enfants au berceau, en livrant aux flammes tout ce qui tombait en son pouvoir, et en employant à cet effet les flottes et les armées de son Empire contre le peuple Chrétien de Crète qui se défendait bravement contre des forces colossales : Ce peuple abandonné à ses seules forces, et aux sentiments nobles et humains, ainsi qu'aux sympathies de toutes les nations civilisées de l'univers, a le droit de faire usage de tout moyen pouvant réduire son ennemi à l'impuissance d'accomplir sa résolution infernale de destruction, de se soustraire à sa tyrannie ; et

Comme des escadres Turques et Egyptiennes, composées de plusieurs vaisseaux de guerre et de transport, transportent continuellement en Crète des troupes et des munitions pour prolonger la résistance du tyran à notre juste et légitime révolution, que le Généralissime même des Turcs a reconnue par l'échange des prisonniers fait à diverses reprises, il est du devoir de la révolution de Crète d'empêcher, autant que possible l'introduction dans les forteresses, par la voie des ports, de munitions, de troupes et de tout autre secours en général ;—

Décrète :

1. Une escadre composée de quatre goëlettes, de six gros vaisseaux à plusieurs rames, armés, et d'un certain nombre des canots, chaloupes cannonières et autres petits vaisseaux, sera formée dans le but d'empêcher l'introduction de troupes, de munitions et de toute espèce de contrebande de guerre, dans les forts ou autres endroits occupés par les Turcs dans l'île, et de bloquer étroitement les forts et autres positions qu'ils occupent.

2. Sont invités, au nom du droit et de la liberté, tous ceux qui, appartenant à une nation Chrétienne quelconque, voudront prendre part à la formation de cette escadre, d'armer toute espèce de vaisseaux sous le pavillon du Gouvernement Provisoire de la Révolution de Crète, en se conformant en tout aux ordres suivants du Gouvernement Provisoire.

3. Notre compatriote l'enseigne Jean Théraki est nommé au commandement de cette escadre.

4. Ce commandant reçoit l'ordre d'attaquer en personne, ou de faire attaquer par les vaisseaux de son escadre, tout vaisseau de guerre ou de transport portant pavillon ennem

et qui tenterait de forcer le blocus ou de se présenter près des lieux déclarés en état de blocus.

5. Le commandant ne pourra permettre ou ordonner aux commandants des vaisseaux placés sous ses ordres de permettre à aucun vaisseau de commerce, couvert d'un pavillon neutre, l'entrée dans un des ports des côtes déclarés en état de blocus.

6. Le commandant capturera, ou ordonnera aux capitaines des vaisseaux placés sous ses ordres de capturer, tous les vaisseaux appartenant aux Puissances neutres qui porteraient dans les ports de la Crète des munitions ou toute autre contrebande de guerre, et les expédiera au siège du Gouvernement Crétois pour être jugés par le tribunal qui sera fondé à cet effet.: il aura des égards pour le capitaine et les équipages des vaisseaux sous pavillon neutre par lui capturés, en se conformant aux règlements, non seulement pendant leur capturation, mais aussi pendant leur trajet jusqu'au siège du Gouvernement Provisoire.

7. Sont exceptés seulement les vaisseaux des neutres qui se dirigeraient vers les forteresses de la Crète: ces vaisseaux, s'ils proviennent des côtes de la Grèce libre ou de l'Italie, dans l'espace de trois semaines à partir d'aujourd'hui, ou des côtes de France et de l'Adriatique dans l'espace de six semaines, seront seulement surveillés dans leur traversée. Mais une fois ce délai expiré les vaisseaux neutres qui seraient surpris ayant à leur bord des munitions et autre contrebande de guerre, seront capturés et expédiés au siège du Gouvernement Provisoire.

8. Il est sévèrement interdit à tout vaisseau de la dite escadre de s'éloigner ou de naviguer en dehors de la ligne de navigation fixée au nord par les limites de la mer de Crète jusqu'à Santorin, au sud jusqu'à Rhodes, et à l'occident vers Malte, dans un rayon de 50 milles. Tout vaisseau de la dite escadre qui aura dépassé cette ligne, sans autorisation expresse du commandant, sera traité de vaisseau pirate.

9. Il est sévèrement interdit à tout vaisseau de la dite escadre de gêner, en quoi que ce soit, le commerce des neutres; au contraire, leurs commandants devront, de concert ou chacun séparément, défendre les vaisseaux de commerce des neutres, leur fournir au besoin tous les secours qu'il serait en leur pouvoir de leur donner, de les aider contre tout danger et contre des pirates, et de les escorter même sur toute la ligne de navigation qui a été fixée.

10. Il est ordonné à tous les capitaines de vaisseau de la dite escadre de courir sus aux pirates qui pourraient se montrer dans le rayon prescrit, et de les exterminer. Dans ce dernier cas ces derniers seront expédiés sous sûre garde au siège du Gouvernement Provisoire.

Le présent Décret est mis en vigueur à partir d'aujourd'hui, 26 Septembre, 1867.

Donné à Alicambo, le 26 Septembre, 1867.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire de Crète,

(L.S.) (Signé) MICAEL TZOUDEROS.
A. MANOUSSELIS.
A. PAPPAGHIANAKI.
M. KYRIAKIDES.
N. NICOLOUDALIS.
A. J. TZICHES.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.

Le Secrétaire-Général,
(Contresigné) CHAR. M. PAPPADAKIS.

(Translation.)

MM. les Consuls, *Vafé d'Apocorona, September* $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

THE Ottoman Government, by its Proclamation to the Cretans dated the 5th instant, still endeavours, by fallacious means, as usual, to deceive the Cretan population, and thus to induce the latter to surrender, as if that Government ignored the constant and unalterable resolution which now, for more than one year, the Cretans have taken, namely, to persevere in their struggle against the tyrants of humanity, the enemies of Christianity, of popular liberty, the believers in the Koran, the zealous followers of barbarism, and the impious executioners of humanity! The Cretan population has sustained this struggle in spite of so many unfavourable circumstances, the immense sacrifices which it entails, and the disparity in the number of combatants, no less than the insufficiency of the resources at its disposal, when compared with those of a whole colossal Empire and of a Viceroyalty.

In view of the sufferings which this population has endured, and still endures, heroically for its liberty, the Turkish Government considers it sufficient to renew a general amnesty to those who would present themselves and deliver up their arms,

trusting to the loyalty and protection of the Imperial Government; while, on the other hand, that Government threatens utter destruction to those who do not accept its paternal councils, or avail themselves of the permission granted to them to relinquish their native country and embark on board the ships of war of that same Imperial Government. Happily the great Protecting Powers, of their own accord, have relieved the Sublime Porte of that task by the fact of their conveying long since to a free land, not the defenders of the faith and country, but the latter's beloved children and females, those victims to barbarism reserved for being violated and enslaved by the Imperial armies.

The Cretan Provisional Government, interpreter of the sentiments and determination of the people who are daily giving proofs of such by its own acts, and wishing, moreover, to spare that same people further bloodshed and immense calamities, deems it a duty to invoke again the humanity of the great Protecting Powers on behalf of their prompt and energetic intervention, in order that hostilities may cease by common agreement and interference; that an International Commission be sent, and the population requested to express itself by universal suffrage upon the solution of the Cretan question. It is only by such measures that the pacification of the island can be effected. Otherwise, the Sublime Porte deceives itself if it believes that, by trickery and bad faith on the one hand, and, on the other, by violence and destruction, it can ever make the Cretans submit.

In submitting to you, gentlemen, the above statement, we trust that you would duly consider the same, and communicate it to your respective Governments.

Receive, &c.

The Provisional Government of Candia,

(L.S.) (Signed) MICAEL TZOUDEROS.
A. TSICHLIS.
A. MANOUSSELIS.
M. KYRIAKIDES.
N. NICOLOUDAKIS.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.
A. PAPAGIANNAKIS.

(Signed) CHAR. M. PAPADAKIS, *Secretary.*

MM. les Consuls, *Vafé d'Apocorona, September* $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

We pray you to submit to your respective Governments the two documents inclosed: the Decree of the Assembly General of the Cretans, and the Ordinance drawn up by it concerning the formation of a fleet to carry the Cretan flag.

Receive, &c.

The Provisional Government of the Cretans.

(Here follow the signatures.)

The Assembly General of the Cretans:

Seeing that after the solemn abolition, on the island and its dependencies, of the sovereign rights of the Sultan, and after the unequal, unceasing, and destructive struggle maintained by the people of Crete, the Sublime Porte persists, against all justice, in openly violating the principle of nationalities, which is the only hope of the Christian nationalities oppressed by the partizans of the Koran;

Seeing that although the true masters of the island have with a unanimous voice abolished the pretended rights of conquest of their tyrants, Turkey is trying, by the number of her steam-vessels and by those of Egypt, to perpetuate her monstrous actions by transporting into this island armed Imperial and Egyptian soldiers to subject the island once again to Turkish domination;

Seeing that it is of the greatest necessity and expediency that the flag of the Cretan revolution should also be shown on the sea in order to hinder, by the blockade of the island, the reinforcements which the hostile army keep on receiving from arriving, and to put a stop to the devastation and ruin of that grand Christian island:—

It is decreed:

1. That a squadron composed of four schooners, six large row-boats, and a certain number of vessels of all sizes, shall be formed to blockade closely Crete.

2. This squadron can be augmented if circumstances, or the necessities of the blockade, require it, by the vigilance and care of the Provisional Government.

3. The blockading vessels of the Cretan Revolution will carry a white flag with

red stripes forming a cross in the middle on which the word "Crete" will be placed in large Greek letters.

4. The Provisional Government is charged with the prompt execution of the present Decree, and with the nomination of the Commander of the blockading squadron.

Given at Alicampo d'Apocorona, September $\frac{10}{22}$, 1867.

(Here follow signatures of the Members of the Cretan General Assembly.)

In the name of His Majesty George I, King of the Greeks.

The Provisional Government of Crete:—

Taking into consideration the Decree of the Assembly General, dated the 22nd September, and knowing that every nation and people in a state of war has the right to employ every lawful means to weaken the forces of its enemies and to compel them to put a stop to the shedding of human blood, that right being above all incontestable when the struggle is unequal and unjust against a people who have risen against their tyrants to break their chains; and

That, for a year past, Turkish tyranny, furious against the Christian people of Crete, is trying to sweep them from the earth by slaying weak women, old men, and children in the cradle, by setting fire to all that falls into their power, and by employing for this purpose the fleets and armies of its Empire against the Cretan people, who defended themselves bravely against colossal forces: this people, left solely to their own resources and to the noble and humane sentiments and sympathies of all the civilized nations of the world, have the right to make use of every means calculated to prevent their enemy from accomplishing its infernal resolution of destruction, to escape from its tyranny; and

As the Turkish and Egyptian fleets, composed of many vessels of war and transports, are continually landing in Crete troops and munitions to prolong the resistance of the tyrant to our just and legitimate revolution, which even the Turkish Generalissimo has recognized by the exchange of prisoners effected on various occasions, it is the duty of the Cretan revolution to prevent, as much as possible, the introduction into the fortresses, through the ports, of munitions, troops, and other reinforcements in general;—

Decrees:

1. A squadron composed of four schooners, of six large vessels with many oars, armed, and a certain number of gigs, sloops carrying guns, and other little vessels, shall be formed, with the object of preventing the introduction of troops, munitions, and all sorts of contraband of war into the forts and other places occupied by the Turks in the island, and to blockade closely the forts and other positions they occupy.

2. All those who belong to any Christian nation, and who wish to take part in the formation of this squadron, are invited in the name of right and liberty, to arm every sort of vessel under the flag of the Provisional Government of the Cretan Revolution, conforming themselves in every respect to the following orders of the Imperial Government.

3. Our fellow-countryman the Lieutenant Jean Theraki is named Commander of this squadron.

4. This Commander receives the order to attack in person, or to cause the vessels of his squadron to attack, every vessel of war or transport carrying the enemy's flag, and which should attempt to force the blockade, or to present itself near places declared to be in a state of blockade.

5. The Commander cannot permit or order the commanders of vessels placed under his orders to allow any merchant-vessel, bearing a neutral flag, to enter one of these ports of the coast declared to be in a state of blockade.

6. The Commander will capture or will order the captains of vessels placed under his orders to capture all vessels belonging to neutral Powers, who may bring into the ports of Crete munitions or any other contraband of war, and will send them to the seat of the Cretan Government, to be judged by the tribunal which will be constituted for that purpose; he will take care of the captains and crews of the vessels under a neutral flag which may be captured by him, conforming to the regulations not only at the time of capture, but also during their journey to the seat of the Provisional Government.

7. The only vessels excepted, are neutral vessels which may go to the fortresses of Crete; these vessels, if they come from the coasts of free Greece, or from Italy, during the space of three weeks from to-day, or from the coasts of France or the Adriatic during the space of six weeks, will be only liable to surveillance. But when once this delay has expired, neutral vessels which may be surprised having on board munitions and other contraband of war, will be captured and sent to the seat of the Provisional Government.

8. It is strictly forbidden to every vessel of the said squadron to go too far, or to sail outside the line of navigation fixed on the north by the limits of the Sea of Crete, as far as Santorin; to the south as far as Rhodes; to the west to Malta, in a circle of fifty miles. Every vessel of the said squadron which shall cross the line without express authority from the Commander shall be treated as a pirate.

9. It is strictly forbidden to every vessel of the said squadron to obstruct in any manner the commerce of neutrals; on the contrary, their captains shall, in concert or separately, defend neutral merchantmen, furnish them, if need be, with all the assistance it may be in their power to give them, to protect them in every danger and against pirates, and even to convey them over all the line of navigation which has been fixed.

10. It is ordered to all the captains of the said squadron to fall upon pirates who may show themselves in the prescribed circle, and to exterminate them. In the latter case these last shall be sent under a strong guard to the seat of the Provisional Government.

The present Decree is put in vigour from to-day, September 26, 1867.

The Provisional Government of Crete,

(L.S.) (Signed) MICAEL TZOUDEROS.
A. MANOUSSELIS.
A. PAPPAGHIANAKI.
M. KYRIAKIDES.
N. NICOLOUDALIS.
A. J. TZICHES.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.

(Countersigned) CHAR. M. PAPPADAKIS, *Secretary-General.*

No. 270.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 22.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, October 3, 1867.*

MY despatch of the 20th ultimo contained a translation of the Generalissimo's Proclamation to the Cretans, granting a general pardon to all those who have taken part in the insurrection, and an armistice to the insurgents, which is to expire on the 1st proximo.

I have now the honour to transmit a translation of an Address from the "Cretan Provisional Government" to the Consuls here resident, commenting upon the Proclamation, which it rejects, and concludes by invoking the humanity of the Great Protecting Powers on behalf of their prompt and energetic intervention, "in order that hostilities may cease by their common agreement and interference; that an International Commission be sent, and the population requested to express itself, by universal suffrage, upon the solution of the Cretan question." And, "moreover, that it is only by such measures that the pacification of the island can be effected," and Crete spared further bloodshed and other calamities, which everybody must deplore. I have only to remark, that in strict conformity with the terms of the Proclamation, hostilities have already ceased, and I have every confidence in the declaration of the Generalissimo to believe that his troops will not violate the armistice, unless wantonly provoked to action by the insurgents and their foreign advisers.

Omer Pasha has liberated a number of political prisoners; several battalions of Turkish troops have been withdrawn from Selinos and Sfakia, and the greater part of the Egyptian contingent is under orders (of which Ratib Pasha, recently arrived from Alexandria, was the bearer) for Egypt; 3,000 of these troops, with their commander Abd-el-Kader Pasha, having already embarked.

I wonder to myself whether these conciliatory and salutary measures on the part of Omer Pasha can be of any permanent avail, unless the same be quickly followed up by very liberal concessions, to be duly carried into effect on the island.

The Cretan "Provisional Government" have further transmitted to the Consuls a Decree, by which it resolves to take measures for blockading the island. Hence, it purposes to equip a naval force, to consist of four sloops, six galleys, and a number of smaller gunboats, to be increased in case of need, carrying the national colours, namely, a white flag with a red cross, with the word "Crete" (in Greek) inserted. The insurrectionary Government have added a statute to the above-stated Decree, enlarging upon the question of the present revolt, and supporting the Cretan population in any measures it may employ to liberate itself from the "Turkish yoke," and that it behoves the "Government" in question to prevent as much as possible supplies, munitions of war, troops, &c., from being conveyed to the ports and fortresses of Crete by the ships of "Byzantium and Egypt."

After specifying the duties allotted to the new Cretan squadron, and which is to be commanded by a certain Captain Yanni Theraki, it proceeds to declare, in a series of Articles, that all contraband of war, on being seized, will be taken to the seat of the Cretan Government, there to be disposed of by a competent Tribunal. The masters and crews of neutral ships seized, are assured of fair and lenient treatment at the hands of their Cretan captors. Are excepted, all neutral merchant-vessels bound to the Cretan fortresses; these will be diverted from their actual course during the first three weeks after the promulgation of the present statute, if coming from Greece or the coast of Italy; and six weeks after the promulgation, if coming from the French or Adriatic coasts. Such vessels, however, will be seized and removed to the seat of Government, if after the above stated term they should be found laden with munitions or any other contraband of war. Every Cretan cruizer is thereby strictly prohibited from outstepping the limits prescribed for its navigation; the maximum boundary distance being north as far as Santorin Island, south to Rhodes, west to Malta, or within a radius of fifty miles of Crete. Every such Cretan ship navigating beyond this radius, and being unprovided with an express order from the Naval Commander, will be considered a pirate. Cretan ships are likewise enjoined on no account to molest the ordinary trade of neutrals, but rather to render all assistance to neutral ships, and succour them in case of danger. The commanders of Cretan cruizers are ordered to chase every pirate found within the prescribed radius, and either to destroy or capture it, and in the latter case to send the vessel under escort to the seat of Government. The statute bears date $\frac{14}{26}$th ultimo, from which day it is carried into effect.

Such, my Lord, is in substance the tenor of the two lengthy documents in question. I deem it unnecessary to furnish your Lordship with a literal translation of each, unless expressly desired to do so.

I herewith inclose a copy of a letter from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, describing the effect produced in Candia Province by the recent Proclamation. The Candiotes do not appear disposed to put much faith in promises of concessions to the island.

Neither the "Enossis" nor any other Hellenic blockade-runner has come to this island since the Proclamation was issued. Mr. Calocherino gives an account of various encounters the beginning of last month at Milato and Lissi, in Mirabello district, and also at St. Myron.

Coracas, at the head of the insurgents, in the eastern districts, had made a foray in Pediada.

Inclosure No. 3 is a translation of the Retimo Consular Agent's Report respecting the Proclamation.

Omer Pasha has since strictly forbidden the Cretan Turks from leaving the town of Retimo, in order to avoid further collision with the Greeks. The same measure has been adopted in Candia town. At Sfakia, as well as in some parts of the Retimo Province, a batch of insurgents have set up the Proclamation as a target for rifle practice.

Many of the families leaving the island do so under external pressure. It is also asserted that a considerable number are by no means disposed to quit, if they could only be assured that hostilities will not recommence at the expiration of the armistice. Russian ships are still removing families to Greece.

In another and more recent letter Mr. G. Calocherino confirms the account received here by the Turkish authorities of a destructive fire having broken out in Mylopotamos. Some 2,000 olive trees have been burnt down. The fire is undoubtedly the work of an incendiary variously stated to be Greek or Turk, if not both.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 270.

Address from the Cretan Provisional Government to the Consuls resident at Canea, dated Vafeh, September $\frac{15}{27}$, 1867.

(Translation.)

Gentlemen,

THE Ottoman Government, by its Proclamation to the Cretans dated the 5th instant, still endeavours by fallacious means, as usual, to deceive the Cretan population, and thus to induce the latter to surrender, as if that Government ignored the constant and unalterable resolution which now for more than one year the Cretans have taken, namely, to persevere in their struggle against the tyrants of humanity, the enemies of Christianity, of popular liberty, the believers in the Koran, the zealous followers of barbarism, and the

impious executioners of humanity! The Cretan population has sustained this struggle in spite of so many unfavourable circumstances, the immense sacrifices which it entails, and the disparity in the number of combatants, no less than the insufficiency of the resources at its disposal, when compared with those of a whole colossal Empire and of a Viceroyalty.

In view of the sufferings which this population has endured and still endures heroically for its liberty, the Turkish Government considers it sufficient to renew a general amnesty to those who would present themselves and deliver up their arms, trusting to the loyalty and protection of the Imperial Government; while, on the other hand, that Government threatens utter destruction to those who do not accept its paternal councils or avail themselves of the permission granted to them to relinquish their native country and embark on board the ships of war of that same Imperial Government. Happily the great Protecting Powers, of their own accord, have relieved the Sublime Porte of that task by the fact of their conveying long since to a free land not the defenders of the faith and country, but the latter's beloved children and females, those victims to barbarism reserved for being violated and enslaved by the Imperial armies.

The "Cretan Provisional Government," interpreter of the sentiments and determination of the people who are daily giving proofs of such by its own acts, and wishing, moreover, to spare that same people further bloodshed and immense calamities, deems it a duty to invoke again the humanity of the great Protecting Powers on behalf of their prompt and energetic intervention, in order that hostilities may cease by comomn agreement and interference; that an International Commission be sent, and the population requested to express itself by universal suffrage upon the solution of the Cretan question. It is only by such measures that the pacification of the island can be effected. Otherwise, the Sublime Porte deceives itself if it believes that by trickery and bad faith on the one hand, and, on the other, by violence and destruction, it can ever make the Cretans submit.

In submitting to you, gentlemen, the above statement, we trust that you would duly consider the same, and communicate it to your respective Governments.

Receive, &c.

(Signed) M. TZOUDUO.
A. TZIKHIS.
A. MANUSELIZ.
M. KIRIAKIDIS.
N. NICOLUDAKY.
A. ZOGRAPHOS.
A. PAPPAYANNAKIS.

(Signed) Kh. Pappadaky, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 270.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Canea, Crete, September* 30, 1867.

IN continuation of my Report of the 9th instant, I have the honour to state that the Greek blockade-runner "Enossis" landed on the 6th instant, at Ayia Pelagia, a full cargo of ammunition, provisions, and some Greek volunteers.

After the engagement of the 7th at Milato and Lissi, in the district of Mirabello, the Turks have pillaged all the Christian farms near Lissi, and transported, by small boats, to this port and to Spinalonga, a large quantity of grain and a great number of agricultural implements they had pillaged.

After the Turks had pillaged the said farms, they burnt them, and they have also profaned and burnt all the churches of Lissi and of the neighbourhood, and they have cut down a large number of fruit trees.

In the afternoon of the 13th, the insurgents in the district of Malevisi attacked the village of St. Myron, a formidable position by nature which the Turco-Egyptian troops made stronger with earthworks. Fighting lasted more than five hours, the insurgents having destroyed the earthworks of the Turks in the surrounding villages Pyrgu, Pontamothi, and Petrokefalon, obliged the avant-guard of the Turks to abandon their positions and to retreat into the village of St. Myron. The insurgents returned in the night to the villages Assites and Crusanoes.

After four days the insurgents recommenced the same attack, but the Turco-Egyptian troops having received new reinforcements, the insurgents, after having nearly taken possession of the Turkish artillery, have been repulsed. According to certain reports the losses of the Turks in these two engagements have been very heavy; a Bimbashi

and other wounded officers have been transported here. I have not been able to ascertain the losses of the insurgents.

A Proclamation of the Serdar Ekrem, Omer Pasha, addressed to the Cretans, dated from Canea the $\frac{5}{17}$th instant, of which I suppose you have taken note, has been officially published here, and, besides, the Agents of the Government endeavour to inform the people of many privileges which, however, are not mentioned in the Proclamation. But even after the publication of the said Proclamation the Turkish Government maintains all the positions previously taken, and does not permit the Christians who are staying in the neighbouring villages together with their families, and who enter into this town, to take out any clothes, food, &c., for the maintenance of their families, and consequently the said Christians are obliged to pay the Turks of their acquaintance in order to pass in contraband, through the gates of the fortress, clothes, food, &c.

Coracas, Commander-in-chief of the insurgents in the Eastern districts, has lately operated a very important razzia upon the Turks of Pediada, where it seems he has not only been satisfied to carry off cattle of all kinds, but made also many prisoners.

All the Bashi-bozouks are recalled now in town, and the local authorities informed them that from now till the expiration of the amnesty, in case the insurrection be put down, their pay is suppressed; the Bashi-bozouks, however, are complaining of not having even received, up to the present, from the local authorities, their arrears of pay, excepting that for the first month of their enlistment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 270.

Consular Agent Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, September* $\frac{11}{23}$, 1867.

DURING the last eight days many Cretan Turks have left the town for spoil; having advanced as far as the villages Karinis and Gonia, they encountered the insurgents, who for a long time pursued them. The former, before entering the town, set fire to places in the neighbourhood of Volsino, which have been burning for two entire days.

On the 19th instant a Proclamation was published by the authorities, granting an amnesty to the insurgents; this is to remain in force until the 20th October next; it recommends them, during this term, to remain tranquil, deliver up their arms to the authorities, &c., permitting foreign volunteers to quit the island, as also all Cretans who wish it, on the condition that they will not be received, and will not be considered as Ottoman subjects. Since the receipt of this Proclamation no Ottoman Cretans have been allowed to leave the town.

Copies have been sent to the various districts in this province.

The natives have not altogether accepted the propositions of the Government; many of them have fired upon the Proclamation. At the same time they have summoned the Elders of the villages, demanding them to express their opinion if they intend to withdraw their families within the fixed term; otherwise they will use force against them, engaging that they will send away the families of those who wish it.

A Turkish steamer arrived here last Saturday, and embarked 400 old and broken muskets, with 60 loads of munitions of war that were found in deposit.

It is probable that it will be published that the people have submitted and are giving up their arms.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. CALOCHERINO.

No. 271.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 22.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, October 5*, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Grand Vizier arrived here yesterday from the Turkish capital, on board the Imperial steam-yacht "Sultanieh," and escorted by the armour-plated frigate "Azizieh."

In his Highness' suite are the Right Reverend the Metropolitan of this Island, his Excellency Cabouli Pasha, Raouf Pasha, Kostaki Bey, Dr. Sawas Bey, &c.

His Highness Aali Pasha landed in state, conducted by the Generalissimo and Server Effendi, under a salute from the batteries and the ships-of-war present; and was received at the landing-place with all the customary honours due to his exalted rank.

The Consuls resident are severally to have the honour of paying their respects to His Highness in the course of to-day and to-morrow.

I will not fail to communicate to your Lordship any important facts that may transpire from the Grand Vizier's visit to this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 272.

*Lord Stanley to Lord Bloomfield.**

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, October* 25, 1867.

THE Austrian Chargé d'Affaires called with a copy of a declaration which he said Baron Beust had suggested for the consideration of the French and Russian Cabinets as an alternative preferable to that which they had proposed to address to the Turkish Government. He asked whether Her Majesty's Government were prepared to concur in this new and amended form of declaration.

I said that I had not seen it before; that the matter would require careful consideration, but that, as at present advised, I saw no necessity for any document of the kind, however mildly worded. Her Majesty's Government had given no advice which had been disregarded; they had recommended the granting of local autonomy to Crete, and the plan of government now proposed by the Porte for that island, if it did not amount to an entire concession of local autonomy, yet fell very little short of it, and seemed to include that which was practically the most important point—equal rights for Mussulmans and Christians. Under these circumstances I felt unwilling to join in any representation which, however courteous and friendly in its language, bore the character of a remonstrance or protest. I saw no necessity for taking such a step, and, if unnecessary, it could only be injurious.

No. 273.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord, *Athens, October* 12, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that M. Paximadi, the Government candidate, was this day elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of thirty-nine, the numbers being eighty-two votes for M. Paximadi and forty-three only for the Opposition candidate, M. Padova, Deputy for Corfu, and the last President of the former Ionian Assembly.

In a letter to Mr. Ellis dated the 7th instant, Mr. Consul Dickson has forwarded a copy of a Proclamation in the Greek language issued by the Grand Vizier on his arrival in Crete, which Mr. Dickson had no time to translate, and forward to your Lordship and to Her Majesty's Chargé Affaires at Constantinople.

The greater portion of this document is a mere recital of the humane intentions and paternal solicitude of the Sultan; it winds up with a warm appeal to the Cretans to avail themselves of the opportunity now afforded to them of accepting the amnesty which his Highness has been empowered to grant not only to those persons who had taken up arms and are still in Crete, but also to those who had left the country, and who will be allowed to return to their homes without being in any way molested. And finally, his Highness calls upon each district to elect four delegates, either Mussulmans or Christians, whose duty it will be to concert with his Highness at Canea as to the remedial measures which it is intended to apply.

Her Majesty's Consul at Syra reports to me that the insurgents who are still in arms in Crete write to the Committee at Syra to beg that supplies of bread, shoes, cartridges, and money may be sent to them; adding, that the Turks may then publish what they please, as the insurgents will accept nothing short of union with Greece. The Italian Consul at Canea has also written in the same strain to the Italian Minister here. The

* Identic despatches were sent to Sir A. Buchanan, Mr. Elliot, and Mr. Fane.

American Consul, Mr. Stillman, likewise most confidently predicts that the mission of Aali Pasha will be a failure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 274.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 25.)

My Lord. *Athens, October* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith extracts from letters addressed to me by Lieutenant Murray, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," on the Candia station, and by Her Majesty's Consul at Syra; in both of which, as your Lordship will observe, the prospects of Aali Pasha's mission to Crete are spoken of with despondency.

I have not thought it worth while to trouble your Lordship with a separate report of each trip recently made by the blockade-runners from Syra; but Mr. Consul Lloyd informs me that the "Ennosis" continues to run to and from Crete with cargoes of volunteers, provisions, and ammunition, without being in any way interfered with by the Turkish cruizers. Last week, for instance, she accomplished as many as three voyages without seeing a ship of war.

The only chance I see of the Greek Government and people being induced to withdraw from the contest in which they have hitherto taken so active a part, is, the necessity of their providing means of subsistence for some 40,000 or 50,000 Cretans who have taken refuge in this country, and who are now absolutely dependent on the Greek Government. These unfortunate persons have hitherto been in the receipt of some assistance from the English and other Committees charged with the distribution of the funds contributed by charitable persons abroad; but these resources having been completely exhausted, the refugees are now barely kept from starving by an allowance from the Greek Government, which does not average 3*d.* per diem per head. Inadequate as this sum would appear to be, it is already becoming a serious drain on the Greek Treasury; and I expect to hear very shortly that the whole burden of supporting the refugees has been thrown upon the people amongst whom they are residing, and that great dissatisfaction will be created on both sides by this state of things.

Until the King's return to Greece, however, I do not anticipate that any change will be made in the policy of the Hellenic Government in respect to Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 274.

Captain Murray to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) "*Wizard,*" *Suda Bay, October* 13, 1867.

THE Cretans have refused every offer of peace and good will. Fighting has again begun. The insurgents have attacked both Candia and Rhythimnos, but I have not yet heard with what results. Of course this puts an end to the suspension of hostilities. Several battalions of troops have been sent to reinforce the garrisons at those places. I fancy Aali Pasha and his colleagues are at their wit's end what to do, and to add to their embarrassment nearly all the Egyptian troops have left the island and returned to Egypt. Many of the cruizers have also returned to Constantinople, for repairs, &c. The insurgents have thrown away a golden opportunity in the advent of Aali Pasha, for I believe, short of annexation, they might have anything they asked for; whether the concessions would be temporary or no, is a matter of opinion: but his mission has completely failed.

I am given to understand that the insurgents intend to hold out until they have the assurance of all the foreign Consuls that there is not the very slightest prospect of intervention on behalf of their Governments.

Aali Pasha on his arrival rectified an error which should not have existed. A proclamation of amnesty for all offences past and present was made by the Serdar Ekrem, and the prison doors were kept fast closed till the arrival of Aali Pasha. Who is going to believe in an amnesty unless you take the very first step to prove that it is sincere? The Turks have managed this Cretan business in such a clumsy oriental manner that they thoroughly deserve to lose the island.

Inclosure 2 in No. 274.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, October* 13, 1867.

DOUBTLESS there are many in Crete who would accept the concessions about to be made, but they, I fancy, are in the minority, or, if not, the minority is, I fear, too strong for them, and too strong for the Turks either, it seems.

Aali Pasha's presents (if he has any) will do more than his promises, but not for long. Greeks chuckle here, and say they hope they will all be accepted (I mean the presents), and that perhaps some of them may find their way here, but that the insurrection will go on just the same. They don't expect to be able to drive the Turks out of the fortresses, but so long as the insurrection holds they care nothing, but gain morally in Europe. The Turks, I suppose, can hold the fortresses indefinitely, and it would seem the insurrection also can hold out indefinitely, so long as the blockade-running is not prevented; and so it will go on, only easier for the Cretans, as their families are being taken away and provided for, until some European complication gives one or other a chance, and perhaps in such a case the Greeks would have the best chance.

No. 275.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 28.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, October* 12, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Grand Vizier issued a Proclamation to the Cretans on the 6th instant. It is, as usual, written in Greek, and after deprecating the insurrection, denouncing the intrigues that instigated the revolt, and offering paternal counsels, &c., his Highness proceeds to declare that those Cretans who may still be desirous of quitting the island can do so within the time specified by the Generalissimo's proclamation. At the same time they are assured that those families who, having left their native country, may desire to return to it, can do so on condition of their giving an assurance that they will in future keep within the bounds of obedience and fidelity. That in order to inaugurate without loss of time the application of administrative measures intended to put an end a moment sooner to the calamities which have befallen the island, and owing to which measures the future will be a reparation for the past, the Cretans are requested to proceed, within fifteen days, beginning from the date of the proclamation, to the election of Delegates, to whom they are to entrust full powers to act. That the Delegates in question, who are to be four for each district in the island, and to be chosen by the elders, Mahometan and Christian, and enjoying the confidence of the Cretans, will be required to present themselves to the Grand Vizier. And in making these elections, his Highness recommends the Cretans to set aside all idea of politics, all personal considerations, and to fix their choice only on those citizens who are devoted to their country, noted for their honesty, their moderation, and their fidelity to His Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

Cabouli Pasha having left on a special mission for Retimo, returned here yesterday.

A number of Christian families had been coming to that town in quest of charity, and were in a state of extreme destitution.

Sheep-stealing is of frequent occurrence in various parts of the island by starving insurgents.

The "Enossis" landed at Suja, on the 6th instant, 400 volunteers and a contraband cargo. On the 8th, it brought from Syra another cargo to Ayia Pelagia, and took away seventy souls, principally wounded Greeks.

A quantity of olive oil is being daily brought into town from Kissamos and Selinos The insurgents levy black mail upon any produce thus imported.

All political prisoners on the island, without any exception, have been liberated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 276.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October 22, 1867.*

WHILE speaking to-day to Fuad Pasha on the state of Candia, I took occasion to remark that, without pretending to pronounce upon the sufficiency or the insufficiency of the propositions made by Aali Pasha, I trusted the Turkish Government had resolved to carry their concessions not only far enough to restore tranquillity, but also to secure themselves from the probability of a revival of the troubles upon the next favourable occasion.

He replied that they were ready to go as far as they could without granting autonomy to the island, which would be attended with infinite difficulties and dangers.

Independent of the objections to it, arising from the considerable Mussulman population in Candia, which made the position of the island very different from that of Samos, of which the example had so often been quoted, there were others of a still more formidable nature.

Autonomy would only be a first step towards annexation to Greece, which, encouraged by success, would redouble its intrigues in other Turkish Provinces.

The first Prince of a semi-independent Candia would but be a Cretan Prince Couza, soon to be deposed.

The next step would be the election of King George as Prince of the island, from which point to the absolute annexation the transition would not be difficult.

It became, therefore, a matter of vital importance to the Turkish Empire not to get into a path which would lead to such a result.

I did not dispute the various inconveniences to be alleged against granting the autonomy, but it was a choice between two evils; and the question was, whether those to be expected from a pacification which would be only skin-deep were not the greater of the two.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 277.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October 22, 1867.*

FUAD PASHA alluded this afternoon to the limitation which had been imposed upon the deportation of emigrants from Candia, and explained that some measure of the kind had become necessary in consequence of the compulsion exercised by the insurgents upon the peaceable inhabitants of the island.

The Government had no desire to prevent the departure of any who were really anxious to go, but they wished to protect those who were being driven into exile by the threats of the insurgents, and the only way to ensure this was to confine their departure to certain ports where the freedom of action of the intended emigrants might be ascertained.

The letter of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, addressed by Aali Pasha to the Consuls of France, Austria, Italy, and Russia, fully explains the motives of the restriction in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 277.

Circular Letter addressed by Aali Pasha to the Consuls of France, Austria, Italy, and Russia.

M. le Consul, *La Canée, le 14 Octobre, 1867.*

DEPUIS mon arrivée à la Canée, j'ai été en situation de constater les inconvénients pratiques de la mesure prise par les Grandes Puissances relativement au transport sur le territoire Hellénique des sujets de Sa Majesté le Sultan. J'aime à espérer que les raisons d'humanité qui ont déterminé le transport des familles ayant cessé d'exister, même à l'état de supposition, les navires appartenant à la haute Puissance que vous avez l'honneur de

représenter ne tarderont plus à recevoir l'ordre de s'abstenir désormais de toute immixtion.

En tout cas, sans porter atteinte au principe admis dans ma proclamation, en ce qui concerne les familles désireuses d'émigrer volontairement et spontanément, je dois attirer votre attention sur un point de détail qui demande à être rattaché logiquement à la conception philantropique dont il émane.

C'est apparemment en vue de soustraire les familles inoffensives aux calamités de l'état de guerre et de leur ménager un sort meilleur, que les Puissances se sont décidées à effectuer leur transport en Grèce.

Or, en vertu de la proclamation du Serdar-Ekrem, confirmée par moi, les troupes Impériales ont cessé leurs opérations de guerre et s'abstiennent de toute offensive.

D'autre part, M. le Consul sait, à n'en pas douter, que les émigrants n'ont fait qu'échanger la situation qui leur était faite en Crète, si pitoyable qu'on la supposât, d'ailleurs, contre une situation pire de beaucoup.

Ce sont là des faits indéniables. Un autre fait non moins certaine c'est le procédé employé par les volontaires étrangers pour forcer les familles à l'expatriation. On les place dans la nécessité d'opter entre leur réunion aux bandes, ou l'émigration, et cela sous peine d'incendie et de mort.

Les incursions faites dans le district de Candie qui ont coûté la vie à quatre personnes et les 15,000 oliviers brûlés dans le district de Rethymo prouvent que le système de terreur infligé à l'île n'est pas limité aux menaces.

Mon intention n'est pas, je le répète, d'opposer le moindre obstacle à l'émigration volontaire et spontanée des familles.

Cette lettre a donc simplement pour objet de vous prier de vouloir bien inviter les commandants des navires appartenant à la Puissance que vous représentez, à n'embarquer les émigrants qu'à , où des Commissaires du Gouvernement Impérial seront chargés de s'assurer de la spontanéité de l'expatriation.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) AALI.

(Translation.)

M. le Consul, *Canea, October* 14, 1867.

SINCE my arrival at Canea I have been able to prove the practical inconvenience of the measure taken by the great Powers relative to the conveying to Hellenic territory of the subjects of His Majesty the Sultan. I flatter myself with the hope that as the motives of humanity which determined the transport of the families have ceased to exist, even in supposition, the ships belonging to the great Power which you have the honour to represent, will shortly receive orders to abstain henceforth from all interference.

At all events, without infringing the principle admitted in my proclamation, with regard to the families who wish voluntarily and of their own free will to emigrate, I must call your attention to a detail which must have a logical connection with the philanthropic conception whence it emanates.

It is apparently with a view of relieving the inoffensive families from the calamities of a state of war, and providing them a better lot, that the Powers decided to effect their removal to Greece.

Now, by virtue of the Proclamation of the Serdar Ekrem, confirmed by me, the Imperial troops have ceased from their warlike operations, and abstain from all offensive movements.

On the other hand, M. le Consul, you know, undoubtedly, that the emigrants have but exchanged their position in Crete, pitiable as it was supposed to be, for a far worse one.

Those are indisputable facts. Another fact equally certain, is the expedient resorted to by the foreign volunteers to force the families into exile. They are placed under the necessity of choosing between their reunion with the bands, and emigration, under penalty of fire and sword.

The inroads made into the district of Candia, which cost the lives of four persons, and the 15,000 olive-trees which were burnt in the district of Retimo, prove that the system of terror inflicted upon the island is not confined to threats.

My intention is not, I repeat, to put the slightest obstacle before the voluntary and spontaneous emigration of the families.

The sole object of this letter is then to beg you to be so good as to invite the commanders of the ships belonging to the Power which you represent, only to embark the

emigrants at , where Commissioners of the Imperial Government will be stationed to ascertain that the exile is voluntary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) AALI.

No. 278.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 1.)

(Extract.) *Athens, October 23, 1867.*

THE French Admiral on this station having again been directed by telegraph to send a vessel of war to Crete to remove any of the unfortunate families who may be desirous of emigrating to this country, the corvette "Rolland" left the Piræus on Sunday last on this service; and she may be expected back very shortly with a fresh cargo of destitute persons to add to the embarrassment of the Greek Government.

The Russian Commodore has also within the last few days landed a large number of families at Milo, who have since been brought to the Piræus in a Greek steamer, and who are described to me as reduced by exposure and want to a state of wretchedness which is most painful to witness; and the two Russian corvettes having again returned to Crete, anchored in the Piræus yesterday with 900 persons, chiefly women and children.

On the 20th instant the Prussian gun-boat "Blitz" arrived at Syra with 280 Cretans whom she had taken on board at Spinalunga, at the eastern extremity of the island, where bodies of insurgents were allowed to retain their arms in the presence of the Turks during the suspension of hostilities.

Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Corfu reports on the 16th instant, that "we have now here 1,080 Cretans in receipt of support from the Municipality, assisted by private subscription, at a cost at 45 dollars a-day, and 370 more who are relieved by the Government. What these poor people will do at the end of next month, when the liability of the present subscribers will be at an end, is difficult to say, unless it be to starve; for I hear from all sides that the more wealthy part of the community are heartily tired of this additional burden, and declare that they can no longer continue to support outsiders, when they have such frequent demands on their purses by their own connections, who in many cases are literally dependent on their more fortunate relatives for their daily bread."

On the 14th instant Mr. Vice-Consul Black writes from Missolonghi: "As to the poor Cretans we have here, they are beginning to be badly off; most part of the inhabitants are heartily tired of them, though they do not like, from patriotic ideas, to make loud complaints. They are a great burden to the Demos, and people begin to doubt the kindness of the Powers in bringing so many to Greece to be fed by those who are by no means rich."

Her Majesty's Consul at Syra expresses himself in much the same strain; and from all parts of the country people are beginning to inquire with consternation how much longer they will be required to support these destitute families, the whole charge of which should, in their opinion, be assumed by Government.

Even at the inadequate rate at which the refugees are at present assisted, 20,000*l.* a-month would be necessary for their maintenance, which is equivalent to about one-fourth of the ordinary revenue of Greece; but there is every reason to apprehend a still further influx of Cretans, whilst the present allowance is not sufficient to clothe and maintain them in health.

It is understood that Delegates have been sent here by the Cretan Assembly to intimate to the Greek Government that unless certain stipulated conditions are complied with, they shall be compelled to come to terms with the Porte. The principal of those conditions are said to be—

1. That the Hellenic Government shall espouse the cause of the Cretan insurgents more openly than they have hitherto done.

2. That a sum of 800,000 drachmas a-month (28,571*l.*) shall be contributed by Greece towards the prosecution of the war in Crete.

3. That a further sum of 400,000 drachmas (14,285*l.*) shall be assigned monthly by the State for the support of the families who have taken refuge in Greece.

The Government have not, I believe, as yet acquiesced in these terms, and two or three persons of influence have been dispatched to Crete to endeavour to persuade the insurgents to accept conditions somewhat less ruinous and compromising to Greece.

In the meantime, however, it is becoming more and more apparent that the so-called

National Assembly and Provisional Government of Crete, and indeed the great bulk of the people, are determined to reject the overtures made to them by Aali Pasha in the Sultan's name. I have already forwarded to your Lordship extracts from letters in this sense recently addressed to me by Her Majesty's Consul at Syra and Lieutenant Murray, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard," and I may add that this intelligence is corroborated by the accounts received here by all the foreign Legations with the exception of that of Turkey.

A Hungarian officer with the insurgents, who at one time wrote in very despondent terms as to the prospects of the insurrection, now expresses his confident belief that a guerilla warfare may be successfully carried on during the whole winter, and that nothing short of the intervention of the Great Powers of Europe will induce the insurgents to lay down their arms.

This letter describes the insurgents as so much reduced by sickness and privations that they will be compelled for ten days to postpone the renewal of hostilities, at the end of which time, however, the Turks will again be vigorously attacked in all directions. On the 9th, there was a meeting of all the principal Chiefs, at which it was resolved that a protest should be addressed to the Consular Body at Canea against the pretended concessions of the Grand Vizier, and as a copy of this document has since appeared in the Greek papers, I herewith annex a translation thereof. In the event of the Great Powers declining to come forward, the Cretan people, says this Hungarian officer, are determined to resist to the utmost and to die rather than make terms with the Turks. A great portion of the women and children, according to this authority, will be sent to Greece, and nothing will then prevent the men still in arms, or those who have momentarily submitted, from carrying on the war for some time longer.

Inclosure in No. 278.

The General Assembly of the Cretans to the Foreign Consuls at Canea.

M. le Consul,

L'ARRIVEE inattendue de son Excellence le Grand Vizir Aali Pacha en Crète nous a paru d'abord comme l'augure d'une meilleure phase où allait entrer les affaires de notre malheureuse patrie. La présence d'un homme si considérable et de tant d'expérience nous a fait espérer qu'on aurait examiné avec impartialité les évènements qui se sont déroulés depuis un an et demi, qu'il aurait dit la vérité à son maître pour le tirer de l'erreur où le tiennent les autorités militaires et civiles de l'île.

Cependant par la Proclamation du 6 Octobre son Altesse ne fait que répéter tout ce que ses prédécesseurs Mustapha et Omer Pacha ont déjà dit; comme eux il ne reconnait pas ce qui a été fait jusqu'à présent et détruit nos espérances.

Ne voulant pas insister sur les bons sentiments du Gouvernement Impérial dont il est parlé dans sa Proclamation, comme le dit son Altesse elle-même, parceque les choses n'ont pas besoin de preuves, nous croyons qu'il est de notre devoir d'attirer l'attention des Grandes Puissances sur les faits suivants: que son Altesse porte avec lui une organisation administrative élaborée déjà à Constantinople pour être appliquée à ce peuple dont il est venu examiner les besoins et souffrances, et pour y apporter ensuite un remède et pour appliquer ce système il demande de chaque district (Nahayet) autant de représentants Ottomans que Chrétiens, quoique les Ottomans ne soient que le cinquième du nombre des habitants de l'île, et quoique maintenant ils ne s'étendent pas au-delà des forteresses et avant la révolution dans quelque autre province.

Cette démarche forcée et partielle de la Porte faite par son Altesse Aali Pacha, faite après plus d'un an d'une lutte sanglante et inégale que l'injuste opiniâtreté de la Porte a provoquée en forçant les Crétois d'avoir recours aux armes pour défendre leurs droits, à l'époque où l'autorité de la Porte ne s'étendait pas au-delà du rayon des forteresses, et comme tout le monde sait, les conseils qui ont été donnés dans son intérêt et dans le nôtre ce n'est donc plus aujourd'hui qu'une répétition de ce qui a été fait pour méconnaître les évènements, des mêmes machinations et intrigues dont son Excellence Server Effendi a été autrefois l'organe.

Les ruines fumantes de notre malheureuse patrie, nos frères tombés victimes, les torrents qui fument encore, ont à jamais mis une barrière entre la Porte et le peuple Crétois, qui n'a cherché, dès le principe, par une humble supplique, d'ameliorer son sort, d'après les Conventions diplomatiques par lesquelles la Crète a été forcée par les Grandes Puissances de revenir à la domination de la Porte.

Nous, Représentants légitimes du peuple Crétois, ayant le mandat d'exprimer la

volonté de ce peuple, nous déclarons, avec indignation et courage, publiquement et de nouveau, que le seul moyen de donner satisfaction au peuple Crétois pour les maux soufferts, et pour faciliter la solution de la question Crétoise, c'est la présence d'une Commission Internationale chargée d'examiner sincèrement et avec impartialité quels sont les désirs et les vœux du peuple Crétois.

Par conséquent contre toute décision qui pourrait émaner d'une assemblée formée d'avance par la Sublime Porte et composée de personnes obscures et sans considération aucune, et que toute société peut fournir à un Gouvernement qui emploie le dol et l'intrigue et qui ne veut pas connaître quels sont ses véritables intérêts et ceux de ses peuples, parcequ'un tel fait n'aurait d'autre but que celui de prolonger à l'infini les souffrances du pays et égarer l'opinion du monde civilisé.

Le Gouvernement Provisoire est prié de notifier la présente aux Consuls résidant à la Canée de France, d'Angleterre, de Russie, d'Italie, d'Autriche, de Prusse, de Suède et Norvège, de Grèce, et des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, que nous prions communiquer à leurs Gouvernements.

Le Président,
(Signé) M. TZOUDEROS.
Le Vice-Président,
K. P. VOLOUDAKIS.

(Suivent les signatures des membres de l'Assemblée Générale.)

Le Secrétaire,
(Signé) N. VEOTAKIS.

[For Translation, see Inclosure 2 in No. 280.]

No. 279.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 5.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October* 20, 1867.

FUAD PASHA informed Mr. Pisani this morning that the Russian Ambassador had sent his dragoman to protest against the decision of the Turkish Government not to allow the deportation of families from Crete except from four ports of the island.

The dragoman was likewise instructed to complain of the Egyptian troops lately recalled from Candia having been replaced by a Turkish force.

To both representations Fuad Pasha is stated to have intimated in reply that in these matters the Sultan would exercise his undoubted sovereign rights in the manner that he judged suitable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 280.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 5.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, October* 19, 1867.

THE Cretan Provisional Government, replying to the late Vizirial Proclamation, have addressed to the Consuls a letter which refutes the statements set forth by Aali Pasha, particularly in regard to the praise awarded to the Imperial troops for their conduct. The Provisional Government have further inclosed a protest against the measures taken by his Highness for organizing a new administration of the island; and the document concludes by declaring that the Cretan question can only be submitted to the arbitrament of the great Powers for a satisfactory solution.

I have the honour to forward translated copies of the letter and protest in question.

In the course of the present week two emissaries (one a respected and influential Cretan) were twice despatched, indirectly, on the part of the Grand Vizier to the Insurgent Committee, with conciliatory proposals, and urging the latter to appoint delegates to come down and confer directly with Aali Pasha. The emissaries having proceeded as far as Rhamni, in Apocorona, met there several insurgent captains, two members of the Provisional Government, besides a considerable number of armed Cretans. These insurgents at once declared that although the present seat of their Government was Argyropolis, they were authorized to treat with any officers the Imperial authorities

might depute for the purpose. They then enumerated all the miseries the island has endured since the outbreak of the rebellion; the excesses and cruelties perpetrated by the troops; their utter want of confidence in any proposals or promises henceforth emanating solely from the Porte. They still hoped for foreign intervention, and were disposed to abide by any decision, whatever that might be, the Protecting Powers of Greece might be pleased to award in regard to the future government of the island; without such intervention, they were determined to resist to the last.

The two emissaries having been regaled with mutton, bread, wine, and olives, and of which the insurgents appeared to have an abundant supply, were escorted back during part of the road by a body of fifty men, who on parting with their guests fired a volley in their honour.

The arrival is announced of Messrs. Renieri, Antoniadis, Nicholaïdis, and Pappadakis at Dhramia from Greece. These gentlemen are amongst the leading members of the Cretan Committee at Athens.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 280.

The Provisional Government of Crete to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Argyropolis, Retimo Province,* $\frac{\text{September 29}}{\text{October 11}}$, 1867.

WE hasten to annul, as soon as possible, the statements set forth by his Highness Aali Pasha in his Proclamation of the $\frac{\text{24th September}}{\text{6th October}}$, addressed to the Cretans, and especially that paragraph which praises the Imperial troops for the moderation they displayed; and, as his Highness declares, all the excesses and barbarities committed by them during the war must be attributed to spite and falsehood.

In transmitting herewith the note of this day's date, being the expressed opinion of the Cretan General Assembly with reference to the arrival of his Highness the Grand Vizier and his mission, we now make our protest, and respectfully request you would forward the same to your Government.

(Signed) K. SAROLIDIS.
N. METAMATAKIS.
S. SORYEKIS.
G. MANUSSOYANNAKIS.
N. NIKOLUDAKIS.
A. PANAYOTAKIS.
A. KALAIDAKIS.

(Signed) L. P. Loyios, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 280.

The Cretan General Assembly to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

$\frac{\text{September 29}}{\text{October 11}}$, 1867.

THE unexpected arrival in Crete of his Highness the Grand Vizier Aali Pasha appeared to us at first sight of good omen, and as about to offer better prospects to our unhappy country. The presence of so experienced and distinguished a personage led us to believe and hope that his Highness having once made himself thoroughly acquainted with all that has taken place on the island now for one whole year and a half, would frankly tell his Sovereign the truth, and undeceive His Majesty as to the mendacious reports proceeding from his political and military officers, who have hitherto endeavoured to conceal from him the real facts of the case.

His Highness meanwhile, in his Proclamation of the $\frac{\text{24th September}}{\text{6th October}}$, confirms all his predecessors, Mustapha and Omer Pashas, had reported, and, like those Governors, equally refutes all that has in truth occurred, thus completely blighting our hopes.

It is not our desire here to comment upon all that the Proclamation in question contains, on all those sentiments of goodwill which the Imperial Government, through the Grand Vizier, professes to entertain for the Cretans. Facts are of themselves a sufficient proof; and hence we deem it a duty to draw the attention of the great Christian Powers to the following:—

That his Highness is bearer of a new administrative scheme, organized and decided

upon at Constantinople for the benefit of a population into whose wants and sufferings he is come to inquire in the first instance, and next to alleviate them; and that in order to carry out such a scheme, he requires that every district should elect a specified number of delegates, Christian and Mussulman, notwithstanding that the latter element constitutes only about one-fifth of the whole population of the island, and even that does not spread much beyond the precincts of the fortresses.

The measures that are being actively adopted by the Sublime Porte, through his Highness Aali Pasha, after the lapse of more than one year, are not compatible with the bloody war which, by an unjust persistance on the part of the Sublime Porte, has been forced upon the Cretans while in defence of their own rights, and at a time, moreover, when the influence of that Government can hardly be said to extend beyond the fortified towns on the coast.

The counsels that have from time to time been given to us by the Porte, and our opinion of them, are pretty generally known. We should now, therefore, be only repeating all the base fabrications of which Server Effendi was on a former occasion the organ.

The burning ruins which are still to be seen in our unfortunate country, our fallen brethren, the torrents of blood that have been shed, divide for ever the Government of the Porte from the Cretan population.

The Cretans, by the petition they presented at the beginning, were only seeking to improve their condition, limiting their claims at the same time within such diplomatic bounds as were imposed upon Crete by the Great Powers, when the latter placed the island under the Government of the Porte.

Much to our regret, we, the legally-constituted Delegates of the Cretan population, and entrusted with the duty of expressing its wishes, feel bound to declare hereby publicly that there can be no satisfactory solution of the Cretan question, and by which reparation can be made for past sufferings, other than the presence on this island of a Mixed Commission appointed by the Great Powers to ascertain, in a deliberate and impartial manner, the wishes of the population.

And we further protest against whatever consequences may arise from the steps that are being taken by the Porte in appointing an Assembly of insignificant and unworthy individuals, such are always to be met with in every society, instruments of deceit and corruption, ready at any time to act against the true interests of Government and people alike.

If such an election take place, it will produce no other effect save that of prolonging indefinitely the miseries of the country, and bewildering the enlightened opinion of the world.

The Cretan Provisional Government, in communicating this document to each of the Consuls at Canea, namely, those of France, England, Russia, Italy, Austria, Prussia, Sweden and Norway, Greece, and the United States of America, respectfully request that they would forward the same to their respective Governments.

(Signed) M. TZOUDERO, *President of the Provisional Government.*
C. VOLUDAKIS, *Vice-President.*
(Follow 35 signatures.)
(Signed) M. VIATAKIS, *Secretary.*

No. 281.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 7.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October* 28, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy communicated to me by the Porte, of the circular despatch addressed by Fuad Pasha to the Sultan's Representatives abroad, on the 3rd instant, on the subject of the Grand Vizier's mission to Crete.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 281.

Circular addressed by Fuad Pasha to Turkish Representatives abroad.

Le 3 Octobre, 1867.

PAR mon télégramme du 28 Septembre je vous ai fait part de la mission confiée par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan à son Altesse Aali Pacha. Son Altesse,

qui est partie hier, est chargée de procéder à la réorganisation de l'Ile de Crète d'après un plan d'administration élaboré par le Gouvernement Impérial et qui vient d'être sanctionné par Sa Majesté. Je vous envoie ci-joint copie de cette loi organique dont il a plû à notre auguste Souverain de doter l'Ile de Candie.

Je n'ai pas besoin, Monsieur, de revenir sur les causes de l'insurrection Crétoise. On sait par qui et dans quel but elle fut fomentée. On sait aussi l'attitude prise par la Sublime Porte dans cette affaire depuis le commencement. En face de prétentions mal cachées au début, affichées depuis avec ostentation, la ligne de conduite à suivre par le Gouvernement Impérial était toute tracée. Les instigations venaient du dehors, il ne le savait que trop; et lors de la lutte les principaux acteurs étaient des étrangers. De là son hésitation à frapper sur des habitants égarés, victimes des intrigues des autres. Toute l'Europe sait aujourd'hui avec quel ménagement il a rempli le pénible devoir de repression, et les annales de l'histoire n'offrent pas l'exemple d'une plus grande modération à l'égard d'une insurrection intérieure. Le Gouvernement Impérial a été plus loin encore dans ses sentiments de sollicitude paternelle. Une fois que l'insurrection a été réprimée, —et elle l'est aujourd'hui, parce que les insurgés ont été poursuivis et atteints jusque dans leurs derniers refuges,—il a voulu une fois encore montrer à la population de l'île cette bienveillance dont il a donné jusqu'à présent tant de preuves. L'amnistie qu'il a accordée, et qu'il vient de confirmer solennellement une seconde fois, s'étend à tous ceux, étrangers et indigènes, qui ont pris part à l'insurrection. Elle est générale et sans réserve. Ainsi, le voile de l'oubli est tiré à jamais sur le passé. Personne n'aura à rendre compte de la conduite qu'il a tenue. Seulement le Gouvernement Impérial a le droit de rappeler à leur devoir ceux qui l'ont oublié un moment. Mais encore ici on ne force le sentiment de personne. Ceux qui refuseraient de reconnaître l'autorité du pays sont autorisés à le quitter, et les autorités locales leurs prêteront main forte. Dans ce but, un délai d'un mois et demi leur est accordé, délai durant lequel tout mouvement militaire est suspendu dans l'île. Les esprits impartiaux apprécieront la portée de la politique de pardon et de mansuétude adoptée par le Gouvernement Impérial, dont le désir d'arrêter l'effusion du sang et de faire renaître la prospérité de l'île, après cette commotion produite par l'insurrection, a primé toutes les autres considérations.

C'est ce sentiment qui a présidé aussi à la rédaction du nouveau Réglement. On verra par la lecture qu'il contient les garanties les plus solides d'une administration propre à donner à l'île une prospérité réelle. Ces garanties, en même [temps] qu'elles sont une satisfaction accordée à la population Chrétienne de l'île, dont l'administration sera partagée entre des Musulmans et des Chrétiens et dont les notables seront consultés au besoin dans les détails de l'application de la nouvelle organisation, sont en quelque sorte devenues nécessaires, comme je viens de le dire, pour réparer le mal causé par les derniers évènements. Voilà ce que le Gouverneur Impérial a fait, et voilà tout ce qu'il lui était possible de faire. Le réglement dont il s'agit marque la dernière limite de ses concessions, et je crois à cette occasion devoir renouveler la déclaration franche, que nous avons plusieurs fois faite, de ne pouvoir rien faire de plus. Ceux qui ne demandent que la prospérité de l'île en seront contents, enchantés. Ceux qui demandent autre chose ne le seront pas, et nous ne doutons pas que les Grandes Puissances alliées de la Sublime Porte, sur la justice et l'impartialité desquelles nous comptons partout et surtout, et qui ont bien voulu nous donner tant de fois des preuves de leurs sentiments de précieuse amitié à l'égard de la Sublime Porte, ne soient de la première catégorie. Le Gouvernement Général fait son devoir sans sacrifier son droit. Il suivra invariablement la même ligne de conduite. Et maintenant quelle plus grande garantie pour l'application loyale et consciencieuse de ce Réglement que le caractère de l'homme éminent à qui, dans sa haute sollicitude pour les intérêts de l'île, Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan a confié la tâche de fonder le système contenu dans le Réglement. Cette mission complète et garantit, donc, les mesures qui ont été prises, et c'est ainsi que l'Europe l'appréciera, comme nous l'espérons.

Je vous prie, M. ————, de vous inspirer des considérations qui précèdent dans vos entretiens avec les Ministres de Sa Majesté et de bien établir le caractère et la portée des mesures prises, afin de ne laisser subsister aucun malentendu.

(Translation.)

October 3, 1867.

I INFORMED you by my telegram of the 28th of September of the mission confided by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to his Highness Aali Pasha. His Highness, who left yesterday, is directed to proceed to the re-organization of the Island of Crete, according to a plan of administration which has been worked out by the Imperial Government, and

has just received the sanction of His Majesty. I inclose herewith a copy of the Organic Law which it has pleased our august Sovereign to give to the Island of Candia.

There is no need for me, Monsieur, to recapitulate the causes of the Cretan insurrection. It is well known by whom and with what object it was fomented. The attitude taken by the Sublime Porte since the commencement of this affair is also well known. In the face of pretensions ill-concealed at the outset, and subsequently published with ostentation, the line of conduct to be taken by the Imperial Government was clearly traced. They knew too well that instigations came from without; and at the time of the struggle the principal actors were strangers. Hence their reluctance to strike the misled inhabitants, the victims of the intrigues of others. All Europe knows now what moderation we showed in discharging the painful duty of their repression, and the annals of history do not furnish an example of greater forbearance in a case of an internal insurrection. The Imperial Government even went further than this in its sentiments of paternal solicitude. When once the insurrection was repressed, as it is now,—for the insurgents have been pursued and reached even in their last refuges,—they wished to show once again the kind feeling to the population of which they have up to now given so many proofs. The amnesty which they have granted, and which they have just for the second time solemnly confirmed, extends to all, strangers and natives, who have taken part in the insurrection. It is general, and without reserve. Thus a curtain is drawn over the past. No one will have to give an account of his conduct. But the Imperial Government has the right to recall to their duty those who for a moment forgot it. But even on this point no person's feelings will be coerced. Those who refuse to recognize the authorities of the country are allowed to leave it, and the local authorities will assist them. With this view a delay of a month and a-half is accorded to them, during which delay no military movement will take place in the island. Impartial people will appreciate the policy of pardon and gentleness adopted by the Imperial Government, whose desire to stay the effusion of blood, and to give new birth to the prosperity of the island, after the disturbance produced by the insurrection, has held the first place amongst other considerations.

It is this sentiment also which was foremost when the new regulations were drawn up. On perusing them it will be seen that it contains the most solid guarantee for an administration calculated to confer on the island real prosperity. These guarantees, while they are a satisfaction accorded to the Christian population of the island, the administration of which will be divided between the Mussulmans and Christians, and whose leading men will be consulted, if need be, as to applying the details of the new organization, have in some way become necessary, as I have just said, to repair the mischief caused by late events. This is what the Imperial Government have done, and this is all it was possible for them to do. The rules in question mark the last limit of their concessions; and I must now renew the frank declaration which we have several times made, that we can do nothing more. Those who only wish to see the prosperity of the island will be contented and delighted with them, Those who want more will not be so; and we do not doubt that the great Powers, allies of the Sublime Porte, on whose justice and impartiality we above all and in every case rely, and who have so often given us proofs of their valuable friendship towards the Sublime Porte, will be in the first category. The General Government do their duty without sacrificing their rights. They will always follow the same line of conduct. And now, what higher guarantee for the loyal and consciencious application of these rules can be given than the character of the eminent man to whom, in his great solicitude for the interests of the island, His Imperial Majesty the Sultan has confided the task of founding the system contained in these Regulations? This Mission completes and guarantees the measures which have been taken, and we hope that Europe will see it in this light.

I beg you, M. , to bear these considerations in mind in your communications with the Ministers of His Majesty, and to clearly establish the character and object of the measures taken, so that no misunderstanding may subsist.

Inclosure 2 in No. 281.

Project of Administrative Reforms for Crete.

L'ADMINISTRATION Générale de l'Ile de Crète sera confiée à un Vali (Gouverneur-Général) nommé par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et le commandement des forteresses Impériales, ainsi que les troupes de l'île, à un Commandant-en-chef.

Les postes de Vali et de Commandant seront indépendants l'un de l'autre; il

appartiendra toutefois à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan de réunir en cas de besoin les fonctions du Vali à celles du Commandant.

Le Vali administre l'île conformément aux lois générales de l'Empire et aux réglements particuliers qui se rapportent à l'île.

Le Vali sera assisté de deux Conseillers nommés par Ordonnance Impériale, et choisis l'un parmi les fonctionnaires Musulmans, et l'autre parmi les fonctionnaires Chrétiens de l'Empire.

L'île sera divisée en autant de Sandjaks ou Arrondissements qu'il sera nécessaire. Ces arrondissements seront administrés par des Mutessarifs (Gouverneurs) choisis parmi les fonctionnaires du Gouvernement Impérial et nommés par Iradé Impérial. Ces Gouverneurs seront moitié Musulmans et moitié Chrétiens. Les Gouverneurs Musulmans seront assistés par des Mouavins (adjoints) Chrétiens, et les Gouverneurs Chrétiens par des Mouavins Musulmans, nommés, les uns et les autres, par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Les Sandjaks seront subdivisés en Kazas (Cantons), et les Kazas seront gouvernés par des Caimacams (Sous-Gouverneurs), choisis et nommés par la Sublime Porte, et pris selon les besoins parmi les fonctionnaires Musulmans ou Chrétiens du Gouvernement Impérial. Ces Caimacams seront assistés par des Mouavins suivant les régles posées ci-dessus.

Les finances seront confiées par le Gouverneur-Général à un Defterdar (Directeur) pour chaque Sandjak, à un Mouhassibedji (Sous-Directeur), et pour chaque Kaza à un Malmudire. Ces diverses fonctions seront dévolues suivants les circonstances à des fonctionnaires Musulmans ou Chrétiens. La correspondance officielle de l'île devant être faite en deux langues (Turque et Grecque), elle sera confiée à deux Mektoubdjis (Secrétaires-Généraux) par le Gouvernement Impérial, et à deux Bach Kiatibs (Directeurs-en-chef) dans les Sandjaks.

Il y aura un Conseil d'Administration auprès du Gouverneur-Général ainsi que de chacun des Gouverneurs et des Sous-Gouverneurs. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général sera présidé par le Gouverneur-Général, et aura pour membres les deux Conseillers, le Chef de la Magistrature, Mufettichi-bukkiam (le Métropolitain Grec), le Defterdar (Directeur des Finances), les Mektoubdjis (Directeurs des Correspondances), et six autres membres, dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens, élus par leurs communautés respectives.

Le Conseil d'Administration de chaque Sandjak mixte sera composé sous la présidence du Gouverneur, du Mouavin, du Juge, de l'Evêque, du Mouhassibedji, des Directeurs de la Correspondance, de six membres, trois Chrétiens et trois Musulmans, élus par la population. Dans les Sandjaks exclusivement Chrétiens, ce Conseil sera composé, toujours sous la présidence du Gouverneur, du Mouavin, de l'Evêque, du Mouhassibedji, des Directeurs de la Correspondance, et de six membres Chrétiens élus par la population.

Les règles qui précèdent seront également appliqués aux Conseils d'Administration des Kazas.

Il sera institué dans le chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général, et dans les Sandjaks et Kazas, des Tribunaux chargés de connaître des procès civils et criminels.

Les Tribunaux du chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général, et des Sandjaks et Kazas Mixtes, seront composés de Membres Musulmans et Chrétiens élus par la population Dans les Sandjaks ou Kazas exclusivement Chrétiens ces Tribunaux ne seront composés que de Chrétiens.

Il y aura au chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général et dans chaque Sandjak Mixte un Tribunal Religieux Musulman qui connaîtra des procès entre Musulmans. Chaque Commune aura un Conseil des anciens, et dans chaque Sandjak un Démogérontie ou Conseil des anciens pour chacune des deux communautés Musulmane et Chrétienne.

Les membres de ces Conseils seront élus par leurs justiciables. Tous les procès civils, criminels, et commerciaux entre Chrétiens et Musulmans, et toute autre contestation mixte, seront jugés par les Tribunaux Civils et Commerciaux Mixtes. Des règlements spéciaux déterminent la compétence et les attributions de ces Tribunaux, ainsi que des Tribunaux Religieux Musulmans et des Démogéronties.

Il sera institué, au centre du Gouvernement Général, un Conseil Général, élu par la population, et dans lequel chaque Kaza sera représenté par deux délégués : chaque Kaza exclusivement Musulman enverra au Conseil-Général des délégués Musulmans ; il en sera de même des Kazas exclusivement Chrétiens ; enfin, chaque Kaza Mixte sera représenté par un délégué Chrétien et un délégué Musulman.

Le mode d'élection de ces délégués sera fixé par un règlement spécial.

Ce Conseil, qui se réunira une fois par an, aura pour mission d'étudier les questions relatives aux utilités publiques, telles que le développement des voies de communication, la formation de caisses de crédit, et à tout ce qui peut servir à favoriser l'agriculture, le

commerce et l'industrie; enfin, avec moyens de répandre l'instruction publique, en ce qui est d'une application générale. Le Gouvernement Impérial allouera, sur les revenus de l'île, des fonds qui seront destinés aux améliorations étudiées et proposées par le Conseil-Général et approuvées et décrétées par la Sublime Porte. L'emploi de ces fonds sera placé sous le contrôle du Conseil-Général.

Les habitants de la Crète ayant été exempts de tout temps de l'impôt direct que toutes les autres provinces de l'Empire payent à l'Etat, il ne sera perçu dans l'île que la dîme, le droit d'exemption du service militaire, le droit sur les boissons, les droits de douane, et les droits sur le sel et sur le tabac, créés en compensation du dégrèvement des droits de douane et certains autres droits qui sont payés par les habitants de l'île comme dans les autres parties de l'Empire et dont la modification est actuellement à l'étude.

Il ne sera imposé dans l'île aucune autre contribution.

Les produits de la dîme, des droits d'exemption du service militaire, et des droits douaniers seront seuls reversibles au Trésor Impérial. Quant aux autres contributions elles seront affectées aux améliorations ci-dessus mentionnées.

L'examen des moyens propres à assurer la perception intégrale des revenus de l'Etat et à fournir à la population de l'île des facilités et des avantages dans le paiement des dîmes et de l'impôt militaire sera dévolu au Conseil-Général. Le Gouvernement Impérial avisera à l'application de ces améliorations suivant les vœux qui seront exprimés à ce sujet par le Conseil-Général.

(Translation.)

THE general administration of the Island of Crete will be entrusted to a Vali (Governor-General), named by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and the command of the Imperial fortresses, as also of the troops of the island to a Commander-in-chief.

The posts of Vali and Commander-in-chief will be independent one of the other; still it will rest with His Imperial Majesty the Sultan to unite, in case of necessity, the functions of Vali with those of the Commander.

The Vali shall govern the island in conformity with the general laws of the Empire and the special regulations which apply to the island.

The Vali will be assisted by two Councillors, to be named by the Imperial Decree, and chosen, one from among the Mussulman functionaries, and another from among the Christian functionaries of the Empire.

The island will be divided into as many Sandjaks or Departments as shall seem necessary. These Departments shall be presided over by Mutessarifs (Governors), chosen from among the functionaries of the Imperial Government, and nominated by Imperial Iradé. Half these Governors shall be half Mussulmans, and half Christians. The Mussulman Governors shall be assisted by Christian Mouavins (Assistants), and the Christian Governors by Mussulman Mouavins, both nominated by the Imperial Government.

The Sandjaks shall be sub-divided into Kazas (Cantons), and the Kazas shall be governed by Kaimakams (Sub-Governors), chosen and nominated by the Sublime Porte, and taken, as need may be, from among the Mussulman or Christian functionaries of the Imperial Government. The Kaimakams shall be assisted by Mouavins according to the regulations laid down here below.

The finances shall be entrusted by the Governor-General to a Defterdar (Director) for each Sandjak, to a Moubassibedgi (Sub-Director), and, for each Kaza, to a Malmudir. These divers functions will devolve, according to circumstances, on Mussulman or Christian functionaries. As the official correspondence of the island is to be carried on in two languages (Turkish and Greek), it will be entrusted to two Mektoubdjis (Secretaries-General), by the Imperial Government, and to two Bach-Kiatibs (Directors-in-chief) in the Sandjaks.

The Governor-General will have a Council of Administration, so also will each of the Governors and Sub-Governors. The Council of Administration of the Governor-General will be presided over by the Governor-General, and its members will consist of the two Councillors, the Chief Magistrate, Mufettichi-bukkiam (the Greek Metropolitan), the Defterdar (the Director of Finances), the Mektoubdjis (Directors of Correspondence), and six other members, three of whom shall be Mussulman and three Christians, elected by their respective communities.

The Administrative Council of each mixed Sandjak shall be composed, under the presidence of the Governor, the Mouavin, the Judge, the Bishop, the Mouhassibedji, the Directors of the Correspondence, of six members, three Christian and three Mussulmans, chosen by the population. In the Sandjaks exclusively Christian, this Council shall be

composed, being in every case under the presidency of the Governor, of the Mouavin, the Bishop, the Mouhassibedji, the Directors of the Correspondence, and six Christian members chosen by the population.

The rules which precede shall equally apply to the Administrative Councils of the Kazas.

Tribunals for the purpose of investigating civil and criminal actions shall be constituted at the head-quarters of the General Government, and in the Sandjaks and Kazas.

The Tribunals at the head-quarters of the General Government and the Mixed Sandjaks and Kazas shall be composed of Mussulman and Christian members chosen by the population. In the Sandjaks or Kazas exclusively Christian, these Tribunals shall only be composed of Christians.

There shall be at the head-quarters of the General Government, and in each Mixed Sandjak, a religious Mussulman tribunal to investigate actions between Mussulmans. Each commune shall have a Council of Elders, and in each Sandjak a Démogérontie or Council of Elders for each of the two communities, Mussulman or Christian.

The Members of these Councils shall be chosen by those under their jurisdiction. All civil, criminal, and commercial actions between Christians and Mussulmans, and all other mixed dispute, shall be adjudicated on by Mixed Civil and Commercial Tribunals. Special regulations determine the competence and attributes of these Tribunals, as also those of the religious Mussulman Tribunals and of the Démogérontie.

A General Council chosen by the population shall be instituted at the centre of the General Government, in which each Kaza shall be represented by two Delegates; each Kaza, exclusively Mussulman, shall send Mussulman delegates to the General Council; the same will be done by Kazas exclusively Christian: finally, each Mixed Kaza will be represented by a Christian and by a Mussulman delegate.

The mode of election of these delegates shall be settled by a special regulation.

This Council, which shall meet once a-year, shall study questions relating to public utility, such as the development of channels of communication, the formation of banks of credit, and everything which can serve to promote agriculrure, commerce, and industry; finally, it shall have power to extend public instruction, as far as its general application is concerned. The Imperial Government will grant from the revenues of the island funds destined for those ameliorations which have been studied and proposed by the Council General, and approved and decreed by the Sublime Porte. The employment of these funds shall be placed under the control of the General Council.

The inhabitants of Crete having always been exempted from the direct taxation which all the other Provinces of the Empire pay to the State, the only duties collected in the island will be on account of tithes, exemption from military service, duties on liquors, Customs duties, and duties on salt and tobacco, which were created to compensate for the reduction of the Customs dues, and others which are paid by the inhabitants of the island as in the other parts of the Empire, and whose modification is now being considered.

No other tax will be imposed on the island.

The produce of the tithes, the dues on exemption from military service, and the Customs dues, alone shall revert to the Imperial Treasury. The other taxes shall go towards the ameliorations mentioned above.

The examination of the best means to assure the perfect collection of the revenues of the State, and of furnishing to the population of the island facilities and advantages in the payment of tithes and the tax on military service, will be delegated to the General Council. The Imperial Government will see to the carrying out of these ameliorations, according to the wishes expressed by the General Council on that subject.

No. 282.

Mr. Stuart to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 7.)

My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, November 2, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of this morning, containing a circular, under date of the $\frac{18}{30}$th ultimo, which has been addressed by Prince Gortchakoff to the Russian Embassies and Legations abroad, in forwarding to them the Declaration which was lately presented to the Sublime Porte, at the suggestion of the Russian Government, by the Representatives of France, Italy, Prussia, and Russia, with a view to throw upon the Porte the responsibility of its proceed-

ings in Crete, as well as of its policy generally towards the Christian population of the Ottoman Empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure in No. 282.

Circular addressed by Prince Gortchakoff to Russian Representatives abroad.

St. Petersbourg, le 18 *Octobre*, 1867.

VOUS connaissez la marche suivie par le Cabinet Impérial dans les affaires d'Orient.

Vous savez que dès l'année 1860 il a signalé à l'attention de la Porte et des Grandes Puissances une situation qui, à son avis, acquérait chaque jour plus de gravité.

En effet, d'un côté les populations Chrétiennes, voyant l'action collective des Grandes Puissances, devenue leur seule garantie, paralysée par le manque d'accord, perdaient peu à peu leur espoir d'une amélioration de leur sort et leur confiance dans l'appui de l'Europe.

D'un autre côté, leurs aspirations étaient surexcitées au plus haut degré par les doctrines qu'elles voyaient triompher ailleurs et par les faits accomplis dans des pays voisins.

Ce double courant qui agissait sur ces populations devait rendre leur position plus pénible et leur résignation plus difficile. Des explosions partielles et successives en Syrie, dans le Liban, en Serbie, en Bosnie, en Herzégovine, dans le Monténégro, et finalement en Candie, étaient venues confirmer nos prévisions et attester l'imminence d'une crise qui s'aggravait en se généralisant.

Néanmoins nos avertissements sont restés infructueux.

Lorsqu'en dernier lieu le soulèvement de Candie révéla le progrès de cette situation, le Cabinet Impérial réitéra ses efforts auprès du Gouvernement Turc et des Grandes Puissances.

Il adressa aux Cabinets l'invitation de s'unir à lui pour exhorter la Porte à ne pas laisser grandir cette insurrection, qui pouvait avoir son contre-coup dans tout l'Orient Chrétien et devenir la première étincelle d'un embrasement général.

En allant au devant d'une explosion par de sages concessions aux griefs des Candiotes par une satisfaction équitable aux demandes des Serbes, et enfin par des réformes sérieuses qui assurassent aux sujets Chrétiennes du Sultan des conditions d'existence tolérables, il était permis d'espérer un apaisement des esprits qui réserverait au temps, au progrès des idées, et au développement des intérêts, la solution pacifique des difficultés sociales et politiques de la question d'Orient.

Malgré nos instances, l'accord des Cabinets est resté incomplet, leur langage n'a pas produit sur le Gouvernement Turc l'impression désirée. Il a poursuivi les rigueurs d'une répression qui n'a fait que rendre la lutte plus ardente, les passions plus vives, les transactions plus difficiles, et ses essais partiels de conciliation, arrivant à la dernière heure, ont perdu leur opportunité et leur efficacité. Dans ces conjonctures, le Cabinet Impérial ne s'est point écarté de la voie qu'il avait adoptée dès l'origine. Elle lui était tracée par les vues qui président à la politique de notre auguste Maître, par les traditions de la Russie, ses intérêts de Puissance limitrophe et de Grande Puissance Européenne, solidaire du repos de l'Orient et du maintien de la paix générale.

A son avis, s'il y avait encore une chance de prévenir les complications imminentes par des conseils adressés au Gouvernement Turc, cette tâche appartenait exclusivement à l'Europe, interposant entre les partis aux prises son autorité collective et leur parlant avec fermeté un langage unanime.

Si cette chance était perdue et la crise inévitable, le devoir et l'intérêt de tous étaient de la circonscrire en écartant toute intervention, et d'empêcher par là qu'elle ne compromît le paix générale.

C'est ce que le Cabinet Impérial proposa, sous la date du 16 Novembre, 1866.

Quelques-unes d'entre les Grandes Puissances ayant adhéré à ses vues, la première partie de ce programme a été remplie.

Le résultat en est connu. Les démarches pressantes et réiterées du Cabinet Impérial et des Gouvernements qui s'y sont associés, ont échoué devant les résolutions de la Porte. Les efforts personnels de persuasion tentés par notre auguste Maître lors de la mission de Fuad Pacha à Livadia n'ont pas eu plus de succès.

Dès lors, le Cabinet Impérial a jugé qu'il ne restait plus qu'à s'acquitter de la seconde partie de la tâche réservée aux Puissances.

C'est le but de la déclaration qu'il a proposée, et qui, avec quelques nuances de rédaction suggérées par le Cabinet des Tuileries et agréées par les Cabinets de Berlin et de Florence, vient d'être remise à la Porte par leurs Représentants à Constantinople.

En vous en transmettant ci-près le texte, je crois nécessaire de préciser le sens que nous y attachons.

Notre auguste Maître tient à dégager sa responsabilité d'une situation dont Sa Majesté Impériale prévoit les périls et qu'elle a tout fait pour conjurer.

Elle tient à empêcher que les rivalités politiques n'ajoutent aux complications déjà si graves de la question d'Orient celle que renferme la situation présente de l'Europe.

C'est dans cette intention que Sa Majesté Impériale a posé le principe de non-intervention qu'elle est prête à observer tant qu'il sera respecté par les autres Puissances.

Toutefois ce principe ne saurait impliquer l'indifférence. C'est pourquoi, pas plus que les Cabinets qui se sont joints à nous, nous ne saurions renoncer à la mission généreuse que leur conscience peut imposer aux Grandes Puissances dans les occasions où l'humanité leur en ferait une loi.

C'est pourquoi aussi, en écartant toute action isolée qui aggraverait les complications actuelles de l'Orient, le Cabinet Impérial sera toujours prêt à concourir à un concert Européen ayant pour but de les résoudre. Il a la ferme conviction qu'un tel concert ne pourrait avoir pour objet qu'une œuvre d'équité, digne de Puissances Chrétiennes, conforme aux intérêts généraux de la paix et de la civilisation, devant lesquels doivent s'effacer toute rivalité politique et toutes vues exclusives.

C'est dans ce sens que vous voudrez bien vous exprimer vis-à-vis du Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) GORTCHAKOFF.

Declaration.

DES le début des regrettables événements survenus dans l'Ile de Crète, les Grandes Puissances se sont émues d'un état de choses qui non seulement blessait leurs sentiments d'humanité, mais dont le contrecoup parmi les populations Chrétiennes de la Turquie pouvait mettre en danger le repos de l'Orient et les intérêts de la paix générale.

Plusieurs d'entre elles se sont concertées pour recommander à la Porte d'arrêter l'effusion du sang et de rechercher en commun avec elles une solution à ce déplorable conflit par une loyale enquête sur les griefs et les vœux des Candiotes.

En attendant, elles ont insisté pour soustraire aux calamités de la guerre les familles des insurgés.

Le Gouvernement Ottoman n'a pas mis d'obstacles matériels à cette œuvre d'humanité, mais il a opposé aux conseils, aux exhortations, aux demandes pressantes et réitérées des Cabinets une force d'inertie que rien n'a pu ébranler.

L'acte d'amnistie par lequel il a offert de suspendre les hostilités ne présente aucune des garanties qui pourraient rendre cette mesure véritablement sérieuse, et son refus définitif de faire une enquête collective ne laisse entrevoir aucune solution des questions pendantes ni aucun remède aux abus qui ont provoqué le soulèvement des Candiotes, agité l'Orient Chrétien, et fixé la sollicitude des Grandes Puissances Européennes.

Malgré leurs pressantes instances, aucune réforme organique n'a été appliquée jusqu'ici pour satisfaire aux vœux des autres populations Chrétiennes de l'Empire Ottoman, pour lesquelles le spectacle de cette lutte acharnée est une cause permanente d'excitation.

Dans ces conjonctures, les Puissances qui ont offert leurs conseils à la Porte ont la conscience d'avoir accompli ce que leur dictaient leurs sentiments d'humanité et leur sympathie, non pas seulement pour les intérêts généraux des races Chrétiennes, mais encore pour l'avenir de la Turquie elle-même, car il est indissolublement lié au bien-être et à la tranquillité des populations placées sous le sceptre du Sultan.

Les Cabinets appréhendent que la prolongation de ce sanglant conflit, et la résistance obstinée de la Porte à d'amicales exhortations, ne dissipent chez ces populations, au moment même où elles s'y rattachaient le plus fortement, l'espoir d'une amélioration véritable de leur sort, précipitant ainsi en Orient la crise qu'ils ont à cœur d'éviter. Ils croient avoir épuisé les efforts de la conciliation et les conseils de la prévoyance.

Dès lors, sans renoncer à la mission généreuse que leur conscience leur impose, il ne leur reste plus qu'à dégager leur responsabilité, en abandonnant la Porte aux conséquences possibles de ses actes.

Dans la voie qu'il a choisie, et dans laquelle il persévère, le Gouvernement Ottomane ne pouvait certainement pas compter sur une assistance matérielle de la part des Puissances Chrétiennes. Mais les Cabinets, après avoir vainement tenté de l'éclairer, croient de leur devoir de lui déclarer que désormais il réclamerait en vain leur appui moral au milieu des embarras qu'aurait préparés à la Turquie son peu de déférence pour leurs conseils.

(Translation.)

St. Petersburgh, October 18, 1867.

YOU are acquainted with the policy of the Imperial Cabinet with regard to Eastern Affairs.

You are aware that from the year 1860 it called the attention of the Porte and the great Powers to a state of affairs which, in its opinion, became more serious every day.

In fact, on the one hand, the Christian populations, seeing the collective action of the Great Powers, which was the sole guarantee left to them, paralyzed by the want of harmony, lost by degrees their hope of an amelioration of their lot, and their confidence in the support of Europe.

On the other hand, their aspirations were raised to the highest pitch by the doctrines which they saw triumph elsewhere, and by the things accomplished in neighbouring countries.

This double current which acted on these populations would render their position more painful, and their resignation more difficult. Partial and successive explosions in Syria, the Lebanon, Servia, Bosnia, Herzegovina, in Montenegro, and finally, in Candia, took place and confirmed our predictions, and bore witness to the imminence of a crisis which became greater while becoming general. Nevertheless, our warnings were of no avail.

When at last the insurrection of Candia revealed the progress of this situation, the Imperial Cabinet reiterated its efforts with the Turkish Government and the Great Powers.

It addressed an invitation to the Cabinets to join with it in an exhortation to the Porte not to allow this insurrection to increase, the rebound of which might be felt all over the Christian East, and which might become the first spark of a general conflagration.

By anticipating an explosion by wise concessions for the grievances of the Candiotes, by an equitable satisfaction of the Servian demands, and finally, by serious reforms which would assure to the Christian subjects of the Sultan tolerable conditions of existence, it might be hoped to bring about a calm, which would leave it for time, the progress of ideas, and the development of interests, to work out a pacific solution of the social and political difficulties of the Eastern question.

In spite of our entreaties, the accord of the Cabinets remained incomplete; their language did not produce the desired effect on the Turkish Government. They made use of severities for a repression which only served to render the struggle greater, passions stronger, transactions more difficult, and the partial attempts towards reconciliation made at the last hour were inopportune, and had no effect. At this conjuncture the Imperial Cabinet did not leave the course adopted from the first. This course was traced by the political views of our august Master, by the traditions of Russia, her interests as a contiguous Power and a great European Power, responsible for the repose of the East, and the maintenance of the general peace.

In her opinion, if there was still a chance of anticipating the imminent complications by counsels addressed to the Turkish Government, that task belonged exclusively to Europe, who should interpose between the conflicting parties her collective authority while firmly holding unanimous language.

If that chance were lost and the crisis inevitable, it was the duty and interest of all to circumscribe it by withholding all intervention, and by this means to prevent it from compromising the general peace.

This is what the Imperial Cabinet proposed under date November 16, 1866.

Some of the Powers having adhered to its views, the first part of this programme was effected.

Its result is known. The pressing and reiterated overtures of the Imperial Cabinet and of the Governments who took part in them failed in face of the resolutions of the Porte. The personal efforts of persuasion attempted by our august Master, at the time of the mission of Fuad Pasha to Livadia, did not meet with more success.

From that time the Imperial Cabinet judged that nothing remained but to acquit itself of the second part of the task reserved for the Powers.

This is the object of the declaration which it has proposed, and which, with some slight alterations in form suggested by the Cabinet of the Tuileries and agreed to by the

Cabinets of Berlin and Florence, has just been put in the hands of the Porte by their Representatives at Constantinople.

In transmitting you the text, I think it necessary to specify precisely the meaning we attach to it.

Our august Master wishes to cease to be responsible for a state of affairs in which His Imperial Majesty foresees dangers and which he has done everything to avoid.

He wishes to prevent political rivalries from adding to the complications of the Eastern question, already so grave, which embraces the present situation of Europe.

It is with this intention that His Imperial Majesty has laid down the principle of non-intervention, which he is ready to observe so long as it is respected by the other Powers.

Still this principle does not imply indifference. This is why, no less than the Cabinets who joined us, we cannot renounce the generous mission which conscience may impose on the Great Powers on occasions when humanity would make it a law.

For this reason also, while avoiding every isolated action which might aggravate the actual complications of the East, the Imperial Cabinet will be always ready to take part in an European concert, whose object was to unravel them. It is firmly convinced that the object of such a concert could only be a work of equity, worthy of the Christian Powers, in conformity with the general interests of peace and civilization, before whom all political rivalry and exclusive views should disappear.

You will express yourself in the sense of this despatch to the Government to whom you are accredited.

Receive, &c.
(Signed) GORTCHAKOFF.

Declaration.

FROM the commencement of the deplorable events which have taken place in the Island of Crete, the Great Powers were moved at a state of things which not only wounded their sentiments of humanity, but whose rebound among the Christian populations of Turkey might jeopardize the repose of the East and the interests of general peace.

Several of them combined in recommending the Porte to stop the effusion of blood, and to seek, in common with them, a solution of this deplorable conflict by an honest inquiry into the grievances and wishes of the Candiotes.

In the meanwhile they insisted on withdrawing the families of the insurgents from the calamities of war.

The Ottoman Government did not oppose material obstacles to this work of humanity, but they opposed to the counsels, the exhortations, the pressing and reiterated demands of the Cabinets, a *vis inertiæ* that nothing has been able to shake.

The act of amnesty by which they have offered to suspend hostilities does not offer any of the guarantees which could render that measure really serious, and the definitive refusal to make a collective inquiry gives no chance of any solution of pending questions, or of any remedy for the abuses which provoked the insurrection of the Candiotes, agitated the Christian East, and engaged the solicitude of the Great European Powers.

In spite of pressing entreaties, no organic reform up to now has been applied to satisfy the wishes of the other Christian populations of the Ottoman Empire, to whom the spectacle of this deadly struggle is a cause of permanent excitement.

In these circumstances the Powers who have offered their counsels to the Porte have the conscience of having done what the feelings of humanity and sympathy dictated to them, not only for the general interests of the Christian races, but also for the future of Turkey herself, for it is indissolubly bound up in the well-being and tranquillity of the populations placed under the sceptre of the Sultan.

The Cabinets apprehend that the prolongation of this bloody conflict, and the obstinate resistance of the Porte to friendly exhortations, will dispel, at the very moment when they most clung to it, the hope of these populations of a true amelioration of their lot, and thus hurry on the crisis in the East which they have at heart to avoid. They think they have exhausted efforts of conciliation and counsels of foresight.

From that time, without renouncing the generous mission their conscience imposes on them, it only remains for them to renounce all responsibility, abandoning the Porte to the possible consequences of its acts.

The Ottoman Government could certainly not count on the material assistance of the Christian Powers in the path it has chosen and perseveres in. But the Cabinets, after

having vainly attempted to enlighten them, think it is their duty to declare that henceforward they will ask in vain for their moral support in the midst of embarrassments which want of deference to their counsels may have brought on Turkey.

No. 283.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 16.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, October* 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the identic note upon the affairs of Candia, which, as your Lordship will have learnt by my telegram of this day, has been sent in to the Porte by the Representatives of France, Russia, and Italy.

The Prussian Minister has likewise received similar instructions, and will act upon them to-day or to-morrow. After alluding to the efforts of the Powers to put a stop to the effusion of blood and to diminish the horrors of war, the note goes on to declare that while the act of amnesty offered none of the guarantees which would justify its being looked upon as a serious measure, the refusal of the inquiry shows that no remedy is to be looked for to the abuses which provoked the insurrection of the Cretans; and nothing having been done to satisfy the other Christian populations of the Empire, the Powers apprehend that the obstinate resistance of the Porte may precipitate a crisis in the East.

In this case the Porte is warned that it would ask in vain for even the moral support of the Cabinets in the difficulties which the neglect of their advice will have brought about.

It will not surprise your Lordship that this note should have produced upon Fuad Pasha an impression of the most painful description.

He spoke of it to me yesterday as being a direct incitement to rebellion held out to the populations of several provinces, where for some time past the ground has been diligently prepared by intriguers labouring to keep alive disaffection in the Empire.

That it is eminently calculated to produce the effect apprehended by Fuad Pasha appears to me incontestable, nor is the probability of its being taken as an encouragement to the disaffected disputed even by the Ministers who, in execution of their instructions, transmitted the note to the Porte, but who confine themselves to assurances that their Governments had no wish to add to the difficulties of the Turkis Empire, and that the expressions which seem equivocal are capable of explanation.

It is, however, evident that the effect produced by the note, when it shall be made public, will be in accordance with the interpretation that can hardly fail to be put upon it in Turkey, rather than with that which may be given in the Cabinets of the Ministers at Paris or at St. Petersburgh; and it will be looked upon much more as an address to the disaffected subjects of the Sultan than as a communication to His Majesty's Ministers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 283.

Identic Note addressed to the Porte on the Affairs of Candia, by the Representatives of France, Italy, Prussia, and Russia.

[See page 295.]

No. 284.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 16.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, November* 6, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose Aali Pasha's proclamation to the Cretans, and his order to the authorities in Crete, upon the expiration of the term fixed for the armistice.

I have, &c.

(Signee) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 284.

Extract from "La Turquie" of November 4, 1867.

Proclamation.

Crétois !

SA Majesté le Sultan, notre auguste Souverain, voulant épargner à l'Ile de Crète l'effusion de sang et les maux de toute nature qui découlent de l'état de guerre ; voulant, en outre, donner à ses sujets égarés le temps de revenir à l'intelligence de leurs véritables intérêts et de se débarrasser de l'influence tyrannique des volontaires Hellènes et d'un certain nombre d'indigènes, instruments inconscients d'intrigues égoïstes et mal-intentionnées, a fait proclamer par le Serdar Ekrem une amnistie générale et sans exception, en même temps qu'il a donné l'ordre de suspendre les hostilités pendant quarante-cinq jours.

Sa Majesté, non contente d'avoir donné un exemple de modération et d'humanité sans précédent dans l'histoire, a daigné m'ordonner, à moi, son Grand Vizir, de me transporter dans votre île, à l'effet de procéder, à l'aide de vos délégués librement élus, à l'application de la nouvelle organisation administrative et de m'enquérir, en même temps, de vos besoins légitimes ; besoins dont la satisfaction, en assurant votre bonheur, respectera dans leur intégrité ses droits souverains : notre auguste Maître ayant résolu de ne rien épargner pour guérir les maux dont vous avez souffert et dont son cœur paternel est profondément affligé, mon premier acte a été de confirmer d'ordre Impérial la suspension des opérations militaires et l'amnistie proclamées par le Serdar Ekrem et de vous inviter à élire vos délégués.

Pendant ce temps, les volontaires étrangers et ceux d'entre vous qui n'ont pas craint de sacrifier à la défense d'un principe subversif l'intérêt de leur patrie se sont livrés à l'égard des populations inoffensives à des actes de meurtre et d'incendie.

J'ai cru de mon devoir, pour éviter toute interprétation malveillante de mes résolutions, de fermer l'oreille à vos demandes de secours, si cruel qu'il fût pour mon cœur de repousser l'appel de fidèles sujets à la protection de leur Gouvernement légitime.

Crétois !

Les jours de l'attente et de la réflexion se sont écoulés. Le moment est venu de procéder énergiquement à la pacification et à la réorganisation de votre île. Des dispositions sévères seront prises pour la protection efficace de tous les districts dont les représentants s'occuperont avec moi de cicatriser les plaies du pays.

L'arrêté ci-joint vous fera connaître la manière dont j'entends procéder à la réorganisation de votre île.

Crétois !

Vous n'ignorez pas que j'ai tenu à honneur jusqu'à présent de remplir scrupuleusement les devoirs qui m'incombent à l'égard de notre auguste Souverain et les engagements que je contracte en son nom. J'espère, avec l'aide de Dieu, ne pas faillir aujourd'hui à la règle de ma vie. En me dévouant à la réorganisation de votre patrie, j'ai la certitude de mériter des titres à votre reconnaissance et de remplir dignement les intentions bienveillantes de Sa Majesté le Sultan.

(Signé) AALI.

Arrêté.

Le Grand Vizir :—

Considérant que les délais assignés à la suspension des opérations militaires et à l'amnistie générale expirent à la date de ce jour :

Considérant qu'il est indispensable de protéger les habitants soumis contre les molestations des bandes réfugiées dans la montagne ;

Considérant qu'en l'état actuel de l'île, une justice tutélaire et impartiale est le premier besoin des populations ;

Considérant qu'il y a urgence de venir en aide aux familles réduites à l'état de nécessité, à la suite des désordres de l'insurrection, et que les mesures d'humanité répondent particulièrement aux intentions paternelles de Sa Majesté le Sultan ;

Considérant qu'il se trouve, parmi les insurgés Crétois, des bandes composées exclusivement d'étrangers, qui se sont arrogé la mission de s'interposer à main armée dans les relations du Gouvernement Impérial et de ses sujets, et que ces bandes d'étrangers constituent le principal obstacle à la pacification de l'île ;

Considérant qu'il importe d'établir une distinction entre les perturbateurs étrangers

qui ont choisi l'Ile de Crète pour théâtre de leurs menées révolutionnaires et les sujets de Sa Majesté le Sultan, révoltés contre son autorité;

Considérant que, si d'un part le Gouvernement se réserve de traiter avec miséricorde ses sujets égarés qui reviendraient à des sentiments meilleurs et promettraient de se livrer en paix à leurs travaux; d'autre part, il n'a aucun ménagement à garder à l'égard des étrangers qui se sont placés volontairement hors la loi;

Considérant que l'amnistie dont les délais expirent à la date de ce jour, annule entièrement les fautes passées;—

Arrête:

Les troupes Impériales se porteront immédiatement en avant et seront disposées de manière à couvrir de leur protection les habitants paisibles de l'Ile de Crète;

Le mouvement des troupes s'effectuera graduellement, en commençant par les districts qui ont réclamé le secours des troupes Impériales contre les incursions des bandes. Leur action sera combinée avec l'organisation administrative des localités protégées;

Ceux des habitants de chacune des localités placées sous la protection des troupes qui, par l'effet de l'insurrection, se trouvent éloignés de leurs foyers, sont invités à les regagner immédiatement et à se livrer à leurs travaux. Ils n'auront à craindre aucune molestation de quelque part que ce soit;

Les habitants de chacune des localités protégées devront s'organiser dans le plus bref délai, et pourvoir, conformément au règlement organique, à l'installation des autorités locales;

Les tribunaux fonctionneront immédiatement selon le réglement organique spécial à l'Ile de Crète les lois générales de l'Empire;

Les autorités représentatives des localités protégées se mettront en communication avec le Gouvernement Centrale au sujet des mesures à prendre pour remédier aux nécessités urgentes des populations;

Elles se chargeront également de transmettre au Gouvernement Central les plaintes de toute nature contre quiconque tenterait de rallumer directement ou indirectement le feu de l'insurrection;

Tout volontaire étranger qui sera arrêté par les troupes Impériales sur un point quelconque de l'île, et n'importe dans quelle circonstance, sera jugé par un conseil de guerre et puni conformément aux lois martiales;

Tout sujet Ottoman pris les armes à la main, soit dans le rayon des cercles protégés, soit au dehors; tout habitant des villages protégés qui sera convaincu de communiquer clandestinement avec les bandes étrangères ou indigènes, soit pour leur donner des renseignements, soit pour leur fournir des vivres, armes, munitions, &c., soit pour leur prêter asile et les soustraire aux poursuites de l'autorité; tout sujet Ottoman sans distinction de religion, quelle que soit la position qu'il occupe, qui se permettrait de parcourir les cantonnements de l'armée, et les districts soumis, pour se livrer sur la personne ou la propriété des habitants paisibles à des actes coupables sera arrêté et conduit sous escorte à la Canée pour y être jugé par un tribunal mixte établi *ad hoc;*

Le tribunal mixte pourra appliquer la peine capitale dans les cas prévus par la loi;

Les mesures de répression prises dans cet arrêté seront sans effet rétroactif; elles ne pourront être appliquées qu'aux individus qui persisteraient, après l'expiration des délais d'amnistie, dans la révolte contre leur Gouvernement légitime;

Les autorités civiles et militaires tiendront la main, chacun en ce qui la concerne, à l'exécution rigoureuse du présent Arrêté. Elles auront à me rendre compte sans retard des dispositions complémentaires qu'elles croiront devoir prendre pour assurer son exécution.

Le présent Arrêté sera publié et affiché partout où besoin sera.

(Signé) AALI.

[For Translation, see Inclosure in 286.]

No. 285.

Papers communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, November 18, 1867.

Instructions pour le Commandant d'un Cercle Militaire.

L'INSURRECTION de Candie n'existe plus. Ce qui maintient actuellement le désordre dans l'île et empêche une partie des habitants de se livrer paisiblement à leurs travaux, ce sont des bandes composées de brigands étrangers et indigènes qu'il importe de

détruire, en préservant efficacement, avec l'aide de Dieu et sous les auspices de notre auguste Souverain, les citoyens soumis, contre leurs incursions dévastatrices. En conséquence, des cercles militaires, sous le commandement d'officiers supérieurs, viennent d'être établis, et leur mission a été limitée aux mesures qui suivent.

Le Commandant Militaire d'un cercle ou district aura pour tâche d'assurer la sécurité la plus complète des habitants compris dans le cercle de son commandement, tant contre les attaques des bandes de brigands que contre les excès de la troupe et les deprédations des populations soumises.

Il établira son quartier-général sur le point indiqué par l'ordre général. Ce point sera choisi de manière à permettre de rayonner facilement sur les endroits exposés aux incursions des bandes.

Il sera toujours libre de se transporter de sa personne et sous sa responsabilité là où il jugera sa présence nécessaire selon les circonstances.

Il devra employer tous les moyens en son pouvoir pour faciliter les communications de son quartier-général, où se trouveront la réserve, &c., avec chacun des points excentriques de son commandement et de chacun de ces points entre eux.

Le but du Gouvernement étant de rassurer complètement les populations sur le présent et sur l'avenir, et d'attirer sous la sauvegarde des troupes les villageois égarés qui sont réfugiés dans la montagne, en leur offrant les avantages matériels, inséparables de l'ordre, de la sécurité et d'une bonne organisation, il importe que les militaires de tous grades n'usent à leur égard que des procédés équitables et bienveillants.

En conséquence, le premier devoir du Commandant sera de maintenir parmi ses troupes la plus sévère discipline.

Il s'adressera pour tous les besoins de son détachement au grand quartier-général, et ne se livrera sous aucun prétexte à l'égard des habitants à des réquisitions de quelque nature que ce soit, sauf à traiter de gré à gré et moyennant payement des fournitures diverses nécessaires à sa troupe.

Il empêchera sous sa responsabilité les dégats aux propriétés, arbres fruitiers, récoltes, &c.

Il interdira sous les peines les plus sévères tout acte ou toute parole pouvant blesser les susceptibilités religieuses des populations.

Il veillera à ce que les femmes et les enfants soient scrupuleusement respectés.

La mission des Commandants Militaires, des officiers et des soldats sous leurs ordres est moins une mission militaire qu'une aide protectrice ajouté aux mesures d'apaisement, de conciliation, de pacification et de réorganisation, poursuivies par le Gouvernement.

Les Commandants Militaires devront apporter le plus grand soin à éviter dans les mesures de détail qu'ils seraient appelés à prendre sous leur responsabilité tout acte qui, en passant par l'interprétation de la malveillance, pourrait devenir un grief contre l'armée Impériale et nuire à sa légitime considération.

Leur premier acte, en prenant possession de leur district, sera de répandre la Proclamation et l'Arrêté de son Altesse le Grand Vizir, et d'employer tous les moyens en leur pouvoir pour faire comprendre aux populations le sens pacifique de leur mission.

Ils devront suivre la même ligne de conduite au fur et à mesure qu'ils prendront possession de chacun des villages faisant partie du district placé sous leur commandement.

Les Commandants Militaires devront établir des patrouilles constantes entre les différents postes occupés militairement. Ces patrouilles seront d'une force suffisante pour être à l'abri de tout surprise ; et, en même temps, elles devront être composées et réglées pour ne pas fatiguer les troupes sans effet utile.

Ils devront interdire toute communication entre leurs districts et les bandes, si ce n'est pour recevoir la soumission de ces dernières. Tout individu appartenant aux districts insoumis qui franchira le cordon des troupes sera soumis à une investigation sévère, en présence et avec la co-opération du Commissaire Civil dont il est question dans les derniers paragraphes de ces instructions. Les lettres, papiers, objets suspects qui seraient trouvés sur lui, seront transmis sans retard, sous enveloppe cachetée, au Gouvernement Central.

Aucun individu ne pourra franchir le cordon des troupes pour communiquer avec les bandes, à moins qu'il ne soit porteur d'un ordre en règle émanant du Gouvernement Central.

Les Commandants Militaires rendront un compte détaillé dans leurs rapports de tous les évènements, quelle que soit leur nature, qui surviendront dans leur district.

En cas de rencontre avec des hommes armés, les Chefs Militaires devront, autant que possible, ne faire usage de leurs armes qu'à la dernière extrémité et dans le cas de

légitime défense. Dans ce cas ils devront toujours être en mesure pour que force reste aux troupes Impériales. Il est bien entendu que cette disposition ne saurait s'étendre sur des bandes de brigands qui oseraient venir commettre des dégâts dans les rayons occupés et protégés par les troupes Impériales.

Dans des circonstances semblables, ils devront sévir contre les brigands avec la plus grande énergie et promptitude.

Les Commandants Militaires ne sauraient trop se pénétrer que le but de la troupe n'est pas de combattre, mais de protéger et de maintenir l'ordre. Ceux qui sauront remplir leur mission sans effusion de sang seront ceux qui agiront avec une véritable intelligence du but poursuivi par le Gouvernement.

C'est par un ensemble de mesures stratégiques, l'occupation de certains points, de bonnes mesures tactiques, beaucoup d'activité, de zèle et de vigilance, que la pacification d'un district pourra être atteinte.

En employant les moyens sus-énoncés, en prévenant les désordres et les accidents, on s'évitera la peine de réprimer les uns et de réparer les autres.

Indépendamment du Commandant Militaire, le Gouvernement Central enverra dans chaque district des Commissaires Civils, qui recevront des instructions spéciales, et qui auront pour mission de diriger toutes les affaires civiles et non militaires du rayon occupé.

Les Commandants Militaires devront prêter aux Commissaires Civils aide, protection et appui. Ils devront concerter avec eux toutes les mesures qui n'auraient pas un caractère exclusivement militaire. Ils devront obtempérer à toutes les demandes ou réquisitions qu'ils croiraient devoir leur faire sous leur responsabilité et par écrit.

Le Grand Vizir,
(Signé) AALI.

Instructions pour les Commissaires Civils.

Les Commissaires Civils serviront d'intermédiaire entre le pouvoir civil et les populations.

De même que le Commandant Militaire restera seul juge des dispositions à prendre dans l'ordre exclusivement militaire, de même les Commissaires Civils auront seuls la direction et la responsabilité des mesures ayant un caractère purement administrative et politique. Ils devront mettre en œuvre toute leur influence pour accomplir la mission délicate confiée à leur intelligence et à leur dévouement.

Leur premier soin sera d'inspirer une confiance absolue aux populations avec lesquelles ils se trouveront en contact. A cet effet, ils devront s'enquérir avec sollicitude de tous les besoins moraux et matériels des habitants, et se faire l'organe de ces besoins auprès du Gouvernement Central, qui fera droit à leurs demandes dans la mesure du possible.

Ils s'efforceront de rétablir la situation normale de leur district respectif, en engageant chacun à vaquer à ses travaux et à se désintéresser du mouvement insurrectionnel et des incitations perturbatrices.

Ils présideront à la première installation des autorités communales, en faisant nommer des Démogérontes suivant l'usage consacré.

Ils ne négligeront aucun moyen, soit pour amener à la soumission les individus qui font encore partie des bandes, soit pour provoquer le retour à leurs villages des familles dispersées ou expatriées.

Ils dresseront ou feront dresser, dans le plus bref délai, la liste des habitants de chaque village, en faisant connaître exactement le nombre des individus absents, la cause de leur absence, et l'endroit connu ou supposé de leur séjour actuel.

Ils établiront un état nominatif de tous les villages compris dans le district confié à leur administration.

Ils feront, à titre de renseignements, un rapport détaillé sur l'état actuel de ces villages.

Ils devront remplacer dans leurs rapports les assertions vagues et supputations approximatives par des faits positifs et des chiffres sagement contrôlés sans écouter d'autre intérêt que celui de la vérité.

Ils ne devront négliger aucun moyen pour détromper les populations sur la valeur des promesses fallacieuses qu'on leur prodigue, sur les vaines espérances qu'on leur fait concevoir, et sur les calomnies à l'aide desquelles on cherche à dénaturer les intentions bienveillantes de Sa Majesté le Sultan.

Lorsque le concours de l'autorité militaire leur paraîtra indispensable, les Commis-

saires Civils adresseront par écrit une réquisition au Commandant Militaire. Celui-ci aura ordre d'obtempérer à toute réquisition qui lui sera adressée par écrit.

En cas de conflit entre les Commissaires Civils et le Commandant Militaire, la mesure à prendre sera suspendue et soumise à l'examen du Gouvernement Central, qui statuera dans le plus bref délai.

Toutefois, en cas de nécessité d'ordre militaire, le Commandant Militaire aura toujours la faculté de prendre, sous sa responsabilité personnelle, les dispositions commandées par les circonstances.

Les Commissaires Civils devront transmettre sans retard au Gouvernement Central les renseignements les plus exacts et les plus circonstanciés, tant sur l'état moral des populations, leurs dispositions à l'égard du Gouvernement Impérial, que sur leur situation matérielle et leur avancement dans la soumission.

Ils devront préparer la voie à une Commission Spéciale qui sera chargée du travail de réorganisation et de l'application du Réglement préparé spécialement pour l'Ile de Crète.

Ils indiqueront le moment opportun pour l'envoie de cette Commission. Le choix de ce moment devra dépendre de l'efficacité des mesures de protection entreprises par le commandement militaire, de la réunion des éléments de populations suffisantes pour servir de base à un travail administratif, et des dispositions morales de ces éléments.

Il est impossible de prévoir les cas particuliers qui se présenteront sous des formes diverses dans chaque district. Pour ce cas, les Commissaires Civils s'inspireront de l'étude attentive qu'ils seront à même de faire des hommes et des lieux. Des instructions spéciales pourront toujours être demandées à l'autorité centrale, s'il y a lieu.

Le Grand Vizir,
(Signé) AALI.

(Translation.)

Instructions for the Commander of a Military Circle.

THE Candian insurrection no longer exists. Those who are at this moment maintaining the disorder in the island, and are preventing a portion of the inhabitants from peaceably devoting themselves to their labours, consist of bands of foreign and native brigands which it is necessary tn destroy, whilst effectually protecting, by God's help and under the auspices of our august Sovereign, the citizens who have submitted against their destructive incursions. Consequently, military circles, under the command of superior officers, have just been established, and their task has been limited to the following measures:—

The task of the Military Commander of a circle or district will be to secure the complete security of the inhabitants comprised in the circle which he commands, both against the attacks of brigands and the excesses of the troops and the depredations of the submitted populations.

He will establish his head-quarters at a point indicated by the general order. This point shall be chosen so as to render easy an access in every direction to the places exposed to the incursions of the bands.

He will be always free to go everywhere in person and on his own responsibility where he may consider his presence necessary according to circumstances.

He will employ all the means in his power to facilitate communication between his head-quarters, where the reserve, &c., will be situated, and each of the distant points of his command, and likewise, also, the communication between each of these distant points.

Inasmuch as it is the object of the Government to reassure completely the populations as to the past and the present, and to draw under the protection of the troops the straying villagers who have taken refuge in the mountains by offering them material advantages inseparable from order, security, and good organization, it is important that the military of all grades should only have recourse to equitable and kindly measures in their dealings with them.

Consequently, the first duty of the Commander will be to maintain the strictest discipline among his troops.

As regards the wants of his detachment, he will refer to the general head-quarters, and will, under no pretext, make any requisition of any nature whatsoever upon the inhabitants; but he may treat with them of their own free will, and stipulate as to the various necessaries of his troops.

He will be held responsible for damages to properties, fruit trees, harvests, &c.

He will prohibit, under threat of the most severe punishments, every act or word calculated to wound the religious susceptibilities of the populations.

He will see that the women and children are scrupulously respected.

The duty of the military Commanders, officers and soldiers under their command, is less a military one than one of protection added to the measures of pacification, conciliation, and re-organization pursued by the Government.

The Military Commanders will take the greatest care to avoid, in all the measures of detail they will be called upon to take on their own responsibility, every act which could be maliciously interpreted into a grievance against the Imperial army and damage its lawful consideration.

Their first act, on taking possession of their district, will be to publish far and wide the Proclamation and Decree of his Highness the Grand Vizier, and to employ all the means in their power to make the people understand the pacific nature of their mission. They shall follow the same line of conduct as they take possession of each of the villages which form part of the district placed under their command.

The Military Commanders shall establish constant patrols between the posts militarily occupied. These patrols shall be of a sufficient strength to protect them from surprise; and at the same time they shall be so composed and regulated as not to cause the troops unnecessary fatigue.

They shall forbid all communication between their districts and the bands, except when it is necessary to receive the submission of these last. Every individual belonging to the unsubdued districts who crosses the cordon of troops will be subjected to a severe examination in the presence of and with the assistance of the Civil Commissary, who is mentioned in the last paragraph of these Instructions. Letters, papers, and questionable articles found on his person, will be transmitted without delay in a sealed envelope to the Central Government.

No individual shall cross the cordon of troops to communicate with the bands unless he bears a signed order emanating from the Central Government.

The Military Commanders shall give a detailed account in their reports of all the events, whatever they may be, which take place in their district.

In the event of their meeting armed men, the military Chiefs will refrain. as far as possible, from making use of their arms, except in last resort and as a means of legitimate defence. In this latter case they will take care that the superior force shall be on the side of the Imperial troops. It is well understood that this arrangement does not apply to bands of brigands who should venture to do damage within the circle occupied and protected by the Imperial troops.

Under such circumstances they will exercise energy and promptitude towards the brigands.

The Military Commanders cannot be too mindful that the object of their troop is not to fight, but to protect and maintain order. Those who manage to effect the object of their mission without bloodshed will have acted with a full appreciation of the aim of the Government.

The pacification of a district will be secured by a combination of strategical measures, the occupation of certain points by good tactics, by much zeal and vigilance.

By employing the means mentioned above, by anticipating disorders and accidents, the trouble of repressing the one and repairing the other will be avoided.

Independently of the Military Commandant, the Central Government will send into each district Civil Commissioners, who will receive special instructions, and whose mission will be to direct all the civil and non-military affairs of the circle occupied.

The Military Commanders shall assist and support the Civil Commissioners. They shall concert with them all measures of a not exclusively military character. They shall yield to all demands or requisitions they think it right to make to them on their own responsibility and by writing.

The Grand Vizier,
(Signed) AALI.

Instructions for the Civil Commissioners.

The Civil Commissioners shall be the channel of communication between the civil power and the population.

As the Military Commander alone will judge what dispositions are to be taken under an exclusively military head, so also will the Civil Commissioners alone have the direction and responsibility with regard to measures whose character is purely adminis-

trative and political. They shall bring into play all their influence to accomplish the delicate mission entrusted to their intelligence and their devotion.

Their first care will be to inspire the populations they may be brought into contact with, with absolute confidence. With this object, they shall inquire with solicitude into all the moral and material wants of the inhabitants, and shall report these wants to the Central Government, who will do justice to their demands as far as possible.

They will endeavour to re-establish the normal condition of their respective districts, by begging every one to return to their labours, and to give up all interest in the insurrectionary movement and the seditious instigations.

They will preside at the first installation of the Communal authorities by naming Démogeronties in the usual manner.

They will neglect no means for reducing to submission the individuals who still form part of the bands, and to promote the return to their villages of the dispersed or exiled families.

They shall draw up, or cause to be drawn up, in as short a time as possible, a list of the inhabitants of each village, making known exactly the number of individuals absent, the cause of their absence, and the known or supposed place of their actual residence.

They shall establish a descriptive list of all the villages comprised in the district confided to their administration.

They will, according to advices, give a detailed report upon the actual state of these villages.

In their reports they will replace vague assertions and approximative calculations by positive facts and numbers, sagaciously verified without other interest than that of truth.

They shall neglect no means to undeceive the populations as to the value of the deceitful promises so lavishly made to them, and of the vain hopes they are raising in them, and of the calumnies by the aid of which they endeavour to misrepresent the kind intentions of His Majesty the Sultan.

When the concurrence of the military authorities shall seem to them indispensable, the Civil Commissioners shall address, in writing, a requisition to the Military Commander. He will be ordered to comply with all such requisition addressed to him in writing.

In the event of a disagreement between the Civil Commissioners and the Military Commander, the measure shall be deferred, and submitted to the Central Government, who will determine the case as soon as possible.

Still, in a case of military necessity, the Military Commander shall have the power of making, on his personal responsibility, dispositions which circumstances demand.

The Civil Commissioners shall transmit, without delay, to the Central Government the most exact and circumstantial information, both as to the moral state of the populations, their disposition towards the Imperial Government, and the material state of their progress towards submission.

They shall pave the way for a Special Commission, which will be charged with the work of reorganization, and the application of the Regulations specially prepared for the Island of Crete.

They will pronounce as to a favourable opportunity for the despatch of such Commission. The choice of that opportunity shall depend on the efficiency of the measures for protection taken by the military command, on the reunion of sufficient elements for the populations to serve as a field for an administrative work, and on the moral dispositions of these elements.

It is impossible to foresee particular cases which will present themselves under various forms in the different villages in each district. In that event the Civil Commissioners will be guided by the attentive study of men and places they will be in a position to make. Special instructions can always be demanded from the Central authorities, if need be.

The Grand Vizier,
(Signed) AALI.

No. 286.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 20.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, November* 4, 1867.

THE Grand Vizier issued on the 1st instant a Proclamation, with a Decree annexed to it, explaining the object of his Highness' mission to this island, and the new administrative organization which he proposes to carry out. The latter document, after announcing

that the term allotted for the suspension of hostilities and the general amnesty has now expired, also proceeds to specify the measures about being taken for the thorough pacification of the island, &c.

Inclosed herewith is a literal translation of the Proclamation and Decree in question.

The remainder of the Egyptian Contingent, numbering altogether about 5,000 men, have, within the last four days, returned to Alexandria.

Adverting to the removal of Cretan families by foreign ships, I may add that all such vessels are required before proceeding on their errand, to call at this port or Suda Bay, for pratique, in conformity with a previous request made by the Generalissimo to the Consuls.

The Grand Vizier having since notified to the Consuls of Russia, Italy, France, and Austria, that ships of their respective nations should not embark natives, being Ottoman subject, except at ports of the island not under blockade, these gentlemen declared their inability to comply with his Highness' instruction, and have referred the matter to their Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 286.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)
Cretans!

HIS Majesty the Sultan, our august Sovereign, wishing to spare the Island of Crete the effusion of blood and other evils of every kind consequent upon a state of war; wishing, moreover, to give to his misguided subjects time to re-consider about their true interests, and to get rid of the tyrannical influence of the Hellenic volunteers, and a certain number of faithless and lawless natives, instruments of the selfish intrigues of evil-disposed men, had caused to be proclaimed, through the Generalissimo, a general amnesty without exception, at the same time that he had issued orders to suspend military operations for forty-five days.

His Majesty not satisfied with having given an example of moderation and humanity without precedent in the annals of history, has been graciously pleased to order me, his Grand Vizier, to proceed to your island with a view to the application, by the aid of delegates freely chosen by you, of a new administrative organization, and besides, that I might inquire into your legitimate wants; and in complying with such wants, while you would be guaranted in your welfare, his sovereign rights must be equally respected in their full integrity: our august Lord having desired to spare nothing that might possibly cure the evils you are suffering, and by which his paternal heart is deeply afflicted.

My first act has been to confirm, by Imperial order, the suspension of military operations and the amnesty proclaimed by the Serdar Ekrem, and also to request you to elect your delegates.

During that interval the foreign volunteers, and those amongst you who did not fear to sacrifice the interests of their country in the defence of a subversive principle, all such individuals resorted to acts of murder and destruction in regard to the inoffensive population.

I have deemed it a duty, in order to repel every evil interpretation of my decisions, to turn a deaf ear to your cries for help, however painful it may be to my feelings to have to disregard an appeal from loyal subjects to the protection of their legitimate Government.

Cretans!

The days of expectation and reflection are gone by. The moment is come energetically to set about pacifying your island. Severe measures will be taken for the due protection of all the districts, the representatives of which should join me in the task of healing the wounds of the land.

The annexed Decree will explain to you the manner in which I propose to organize anew your island.

Cretans!

You are aware that I have hitherto felt honour-bound to fulfil scrupulously the duties which are incumbent upon me in regard to our august Sovereign and the engagements I make in his name.

I trust, by the help of God, not to fail to-day in what has been the rule of my life. In devoting myself to the re-construction of your native country, I have the certainty of acquiring some claims on your gratitude, as well as carrying out worthily the good intentions of His Majesty the Sultan.

Canea, October 20 / November 1, 1867.

The Grand Vizier,
(Signed) AALI.

Decree.

(Translation.)

CONSIDERING that the delay assigned to the suspension of military operations and to the general amnesty expires at the date of this day;

Considering that it is expedient to protect the peaceable inhabitants from the raids of bands that have sought refuge in the mountains;

Considering that in the actual condition of the island, a tutelar and impartial justice is the first want of the population;

Considering that it is urgent to come to the aid of such families as have been reduced to a state of want by the insurrection, and that measures of humanity are in special accordance with the paternal intentions of His Majesty the Sultan;

Considering that amongst the Cretan insurgents are to be found bands composed exclusively of foreigners, who arrogate to themselves the duty of intervening with arms in hand in the relations of the Imperial Government with its subjects, and that these foreign bands form the chief obstacle to the pacification of the island;

Considering that it is desirable to discriminate between foreign agitators, who have chosen the Island of Crete as a field for their revolutionary machinations, and the subjects of His Majesty the Sultan who have rebelled against his authority;

Considering that, on one hand, the Government reserves to itself the right of dealing mercifully with such of its misguided subjects who should return to their allegiance, and would promise to resume their peaceful occupations; and that, on the other hand, no quarter is to be given to those foreigners who have placed themselves voluntarily beyond the pale of the law;

Considering that the amnesty, the term of which expires to-day, annuls entirely past errors:—

It is hereby decreed, that the Imperial troops are to march out forthwith, and be disposed of in such manner as to shield under their protection the peaceable inhabitants of the Island of Crete.

The moving of troops will be effected gradually, beginning by those districts which have asked for the assistance of the Imperial troops against the forays of insurgent bands. Their action shall be combined with the administrative organization of localities that are protected. Such of the inhabitants of every locality, thus placed under the protection of troops, who should be absent from their homes owing to the insurrection, are hereby desired to return thereto immediately and resume their work. They will have nothing to fear, from whatever quarter it may be.

The inhabitants of each of the protected localities will have to organize themselves within the shortest delay, and provide, in conformity with the Organic Statute, for the due establishment of the local authorities. The Tribunals will act immediately according to the special Organic Statute for the Island of Crete, and the general laws of the Empire.

The authorities representing the protected localities will put themselves in immediate communication with the Central Government in regard to the measures to be taken for complying with the urgent wants of the population. These will equally undertake to transmit to the Central Government complaints of every kind against anybody who should attempt to rekindle, directly or indirectly, the fire of insurrection.

Every foreign volunteer found by the Imperial troops on any part of the island, under whatever circumstances, will be tried by court-martial, and punished accordingly.

Every Ottoman subject caught with arms in hand, whether within the radius of a protected circle or beyond it; every inhabitant of a protected village convicted of holding intercourse with foreign or native insurrectionary bands, whether it be to give information, or to furnish them provisions, arms, munitions, &c.; whether to afford them refuge or screen them from being prosecuted by the authorities; every Ottoman subject, irrespective of his religion and the position he may hold, who would venture to proceed to the military stations and the surrendered districts for the purpose of committing any misdeeds on the persons and property of peaceful inhabitants,—the same will be arrested

and conducted under escort to Canea, in order to be tried by a Mixed Court established *ad hoc*.

The Mixed Court will have the power of awarding capital punishment in cases provided by law.

Measures of repression following this decision will be without retroactive effect; they can only be applied to such individuals as would persist, after the expiration of the terms of the amnesty, in rebelling against their legitimate Government.

Civil and military authorities will each in their turn see to the carrying out strictly of the present Decree. They will have to render me an account, without delay, of any supplementary measures that they deem necessary to take for its due execution.

The present Decree will be published and posted up wherever it may be necessary.

Canea, October 20 / November 1, 1867.

The Grand Vizier,
(Signed) AALI.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

DISTURBANCES IN CRETE.

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament, December 2, 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

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Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete.

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament, December 2, 1867.)

No. 1.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 22.)

My Lord, *Athens, November 6, 1867.*

THE Russian frigate "Alexandre Newsky" landed about 1,200 Cretans at the Piræus the day before yesterday; the Russian corvette "Bombori" 700; and the Prussian gunboat "Blitz," 250.

M. Coroneos, who has recently been in command of a portion of the insurgent forces, returned in one of the Russian vessels; as also M. Petropoulakis, a Mainiot, who has played a considerable part in Crete for some months past.

Mr. Consul Lloyd reports that the "Enosis" blockade-runner continues to make trips to Crete as heretofore, discharging her cargo of provisions and ammunition, and returned Cretans, without being molested by Turkish cruizers, and taking on board as many families as happen to be near the shore and ready to embark.

A person named Bouboulaki called upon me yesterday, and said that he wished to make to me a communication in regard to the state of affairs in Crete. He described himself as a native of the town of Candia, and a deputy from the eastern half of the island to the so-called National Assembly, now sitting at Argyroplis, in the Province of Retimo. He had come over to Athens as one of a Deputation from the Provisional Government of Crete, to discuss certain matters with the Committee here, and should return home in a few days. But before doing so he was desirous, he said, to make one more appeal to Her Majesty's Government in behalf of his countrymen, as, although he had already spoken more than once in the same sense to Mr. Dickson, he had no means of knowing whether his communications had reached Her Majesty's Government.

Nothing, he said, would ever induce the Cretans to come to terms with the Turkish Government. They would continue to resist to the utmost of their power, and nothing less than the total extermination of the Christians, or the departure of the Turks, would, he believed, put an end to the civil war. But even were the insurgents to be compelled by starvation to lay down their arms, they would rise again directly they recovered sufficiently to be able to do so with any prospect of success.

What they asked was that Her Majesty's Government, if they did not believe these assertions, should join the other Powers in inducing the Turks to consent to the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the state of the country and the wishes of its inhabitants.

He did not conceal from me that the object of almost every one in Crete was annexation to Greece, but he was well aware of the serious evils of the present system of Government in this country, and if ever the day should come when the Cretans were able to annex themselves to Greece, it was their full intention to effect the union on such conditions as would either compel the alteration of the existing Constitution of Greece or the grant of Special Institutions to Crete. But he felt that even if the

insurgents were to succeed in wresting the fortresses from the Turks, no stable Government would be possible in Crete until it should be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government. He trusted, however, that your Lordship would at last take compassion on the sufferings of a whole nation, and adopt measures to ascertain whether it was not the unalterable determination of the Cretans to separate from Turkey. The native Mussulmans, he thought, would be no insuperable obstacle to an arrangement of this question in the sense desired by the Christians, as they were already so heartily tired of the war, and so reduced in number by misery and disease, that they would joyfully acquiesce in any terms which should secure to them the enjoyment of their religion and their property—conditions which there would be no difficulty on the part of the Christians in conceding.

M. Bouboulaki appeared to me to be an earnest, sincere man, and I attached the more importance to what he said, as I could not detect the least symptom of his being the agent or accomplice of any Party in this country. He seemed to be much disgusted on the contrary, with the Greek volunteers, and with all he had seen in Greece, but he could think of no satisfactory solution short of union with this Kingdom. A Christian Prince or Governor under the sovereignty of the Sultan was, he thought, out of the question. Such a Governor would either act precisely as the Turks had done, and perhaps worse, in which case nothing would have been gained by the Christians, or he would endeavour to govern in such a way as to satisfy the Christians, in which case he would infallibly be removed by the Porte.

I did not hold out to M. Bouboulaki the least hope that Her Majesty's Government would modify their policy in regard to Crete, but on the other hand, it did not appear to me necessary that I should refuse him the opportunity of making any statement which he thought likely to serve his cause.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 2.

Lord Bloomfield to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 22.)

My Lord, *Vienna, November 19, 1867.*

I INQUIRED yesterday of Baron Beust if he had received any intelligence from Constantinople with regard to the communications which the Austrian Ambassador had been instructed to make to the Porte on the subject of an answer to the last note of the four Powers. His Excellency replied that he was not yet informed of the result of this communication, but it would naturally lose much of its value in consequence of Her Majesty's Government having declined to join in this step. He spoke with regret of your Lordship's not having thought it advisable for the two Powers to act together in this instance, and I availed myself of the opportunity to observe that your Lordship equally regretted the necessity of taking a decision which was not in conformity with his wishes, but that you had never been favourable to the scheme of an international inquiry into the affairs of Crete, and the difficulties encountered by the Turkish Government in their efforts to quell the insurrection were not encouraging, as to their resulting in an issue satisfactory to the Porte. That as to the note of the four Powers, it was meant as a conclusion of the correspondence on their part, and it might therefore be asked whether under these circumstances it was not advisable to discourage the continuance of a controversy, and let the correspondence drop,—a course that was in complete accordance with the previous conduct of Her Majesty's Government, which had been all along marked by a desire to refrain from giving advice.

I repeated that it was a source of regret to your Lordship not to have been able to join with him, but Her Majesty's Government persisted in thinking that a policy of absolute non-interference was the wisest and best for England, and left her free to act as she might think best under the circumstances of the times.

I have, &c.
(Signed) BLOOMFIELD.

No. 3.

Acting Consul-General Rogers to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord, *Beyrout, November* 14, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that yesterday the Turkish steam-frigate "Peikizaafar," 72 guns, commanded by Captain Selim Bey, having embarked nearly 2,000 soldiers at this port, started direct for the Island of Candia.

Of the soldiers intended to be sent on this Mission, I am assured that about 90 deserted and most of them were kept in close confinement till they were sent on board, and they openly expressed their grief at being sent on this Expedition.

They are in considerable arrears of pay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. T. ROGERS.

No. 4.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, November* 11, 1867.

PURSUANT to the Vizirial proclamation of the 6th ultimo* every district in the Island was invited to send, within a fortnight of that date, four delegates to His Highness Aali Pasha. These representatives were to be freely chosen by elders of the population, Christian and Mahometan, possessing the requisite qualifications for voting. The elections have not, on the whole, been very satisfactorily conducted, or been free from an undue amount of pressure, from the insurgent Chiefs on one side, or from the Government on the other. Up to the present time the following results are given: out of the districts forming the Province of Canea, namely, Canea City, Kydonia, Apokorona, Sfakia, Selinos, and Kissamos, this city only has returned two Christian delegates. In Retimo Province, the districts of Mylopotamus, Amari, and St. Vassili, refuse to elect delegates; but Rithymnos (or environs of Retimo) and the town itself, have each sent their quota. Candia Province has furnished delegates for seven of its Districts, namely, Heraclion (Candia city), Temenos, Melavese, Pediada, Mirabello, Lasethe, and Hierapetra; the remaining four districts, Setia, Rhizo, Monofatzi, and Kenurio, or Pygotissa (Messara), are still unrepresented. These Candia Province members were brought to Canea on the 8th instant by Cabuli Pasha.

In the above statement I do not consider it necessary to mention the Mussulman delegates; since the authorities might always without difficulty obtain any number, besides the fact of the whole Mussulman population being in a considerable minority as compared with the Christian element.

In the inclosed translation marked No. 1 of a letter from the Acting Consular Agent at Retimo is a brief account of the late elections in that town.

The last advices I have received from Candia are not reassuring, as will be seen by Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino's despatch, of which No. 2 is a copy.

I further inclose a translation of the Memorandum No. 3, given by the two delegates of Hierapetra to Mr. Calocherino, of acts of violence committed in that district for the last twelvemonth.

Reshid Pasha, who acquired so much notoriety as Commander of the Cretan Irregulars during the late campaign, has died from consumption in Candia.

Two battalions arrived last week from Alexandretta.

Troops are already being distributed over the districts of Kydonia, Apokorona, and Kissamos. The Grand Vizier has caused a supply of corn to be sent hence for the relief of some of the suffering districts on the coast.

Colonel Coroneos has left the island owing to ill-health, and has retired to Greece.

Hussein Avni Pasha, whose appointment as Governor-General of the island dates since the month of March last, has just returned from Yanina.

The Serdar Ekrem embarks for Constantinople to-day, on board the "Mejidieh" steam-yacht. His Highness has left a plan for the military occupation of the island to consist of a chain of blockhouses to be erected from Kissamos Castelli as far as Selinos, where similar forts have already been built as also at Sfakia.

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete," presented to Parliament December 2, 1867, Nos. 275 and 284.

Another chain is to intersect Candia Province from the port of Candia to Dibaki. It is also proposed, in due course of time, to make some roads.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Acting Consular Agent Petikakis to Consul Dickson.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Retimo, October* $\frac{19}{31}$, 1867.

TWO of the inhabitants of the villages of Atzipopoulo and Priné have left this for Canea, to request his Highness the Grand Vizier to be allowed to convey their produce into Retimo town, should hostilities recommence, for fear of being plundered. His Highness has complied with this request, provided proper Delegates be named. The necessary orders have been given by the local authorities.

On returning to this, Bishop Lambros assembled at his house the whole of the few Christians who are in Retimo town, and proceeded to terminate the election of Delegates. Those present did not listen to the advice given by the Bishop; two persons named by the Government were approved of by the villagers, but not by those in the town; these two persons proceeded all through the town, endeavouring to obtain votes and signatures in their favour.

The next day the Christians in the town were invited by the authorities to state the reasons why they did not approve of the election of the Delegates already made; these replied, that the Proclamation of the Grand Vizier referred to the insurgents and to the people in general, and not to those residing in the town, for which reason they refused to vote.

It has not been ascertained whether Government will accept Delegates chosen by the inhabitants of only two or three villages.

I have, &c.
(Signed) K. PETIKAKIS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, November* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that the actual state of this province is the same, as stated in my previous despatches.

Though the end of the armistice is over, no movement has as yet taken place. The intention of the insurgents is always, as it is stated, the same, in accordance with their replies addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor of Candia, and to his Highness Aali Pasha, which have been already published.

One or more war steamers under the Russian flag, as reported here, have again embarked last week families at Ayia Pelagia or in the environs of that place.

Some Greek villagers from the village Canicastelli, in the district Temenos, on their way to their village from this town, on the 21st ultimo, were wounded and robbed by two armed Turks on horseback.

Similar disturbances are taking place here every day, and the local authorities do not succeed in imprisoning and punishing the Turks who commit the said disturbances.

Two Zaptiehs, who were sent by the local authorities to guard and defend a farm near the town, have also robbed and beaten some poor people; they have been, however, imprisoned by the authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

P.S.—I have just received the inclosed, signed by the two Delegates of Yerapetra in this province, who arrived here some time ago. In this Report they mention that a great many outrages have been committed by the Turks at Yerapetra.

L. A. C

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Memorandum of Outrages committed in Yerapetra, Candia Province, from August 1866 *up to this day.*

(Translation.)

EVER since the Turks were compelled to withdraw into the fortresses, the Christians have also had to abandon their villages, and seek refuge in some of the islands of the Archipelago. Both Turks and Christians looked to their mutual safety.

On the 29th of August (o.s.), a party of Cretan Turks wrested from the Zaptiehs Steliano Vionaki, with intent to kill him. He escaped with his life, having had one of his ears cut off. Bairam Daphniadis, the principal accomplice in this outrage, succeeded in evading punishment or examination from the authorities.

On the 2nd September, some Cretan Turks, without asking permission of the authorities, went out to fight the insurgents at Vaimakanisson. The Turks and Christians each lost a man killed.

Returning to Castelli, these Turks discharged their arms and cried out, thus alarming the whole neighbourhood; some also went to St. Sotrika's church, broke open the doors, and plundered everything they could find. They smashed the images with the butt-ends of their muskets and with knives. Thence they proceeded to San Nicolo, and endeavoured to do the same, and cut down the belfry and bells. At the end of September they forced the Mudir to open all the shops of the absent Christians, and they then set to robbing the contents, such as oil and corn, dividing the spoil amongst themselves.

In June, Mustapha Pasha's troops forcibly seized more than forty mules, which were reluctantly given up to the troops on condition that they would be returned to their owners. The promise was never kept, although one mule belonged to the Delegate, George Karandino.

For some days past, the district produce has been gathered in by the authorities.

Families and individuals who absented themselves with the consent of the authorities have not even been spared. Whether Christian or Turk, their property has been confiscated.

A son of George Khrissofaki, by name Kharalambo, had left for Scarpanto Island; two others for Calymnos. They lost all their furniture, clothes, &c. Many other similar examples can be quoted.

Much damage has been done to the schools. No school exists here now. Persons are often being unjustly beaten, &c.

October 20
November 1, 1867.

(Signed) P. KARANDINO.
YEROTHEOS.

No. 5.

Extracts from various Reports addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs by the Turkish Consul-General at Syra.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, November 29.)

Rapport du 6 *Octobre*, 1867.

Le 8, "l'Enossis" a transporté de Syra en Crète et a débarqué à Aya Pélagia une centaine de volontaires, des munitions, des vivres, &c.

Le 10, il a fait le même voyage et a débarqué au même endroit une trentaine de Crétois, des vivres, &c.

Il se prépare à repartir pour la Crète avec un nouveau chargement.

La canonnière Prussienne "Blitz," venant de la Canée, a débarqué à Syra 240 femmes et enfants Crétois. Elle est repartie pour aller prendre en Crète d'autres familles Candiotes et les amener à Syra.

Coronéos veut à tout prix quitter la Crète; et il aurait déclaré aux soi-disant autorités insurrectionnelles qu'il était las de commander des brigands.

La même animosité règne entre les Hermopolitains et les Crétois. Un de ces derniers, qui se rendait à bord d'un bateau Autrichien pour retourner en Crète, a été garotté, amenée à la police et assommé par les gendarmes. On désespère de le sauver.

Chaque jour des femmes et des enfants Crétois se présentent au Consulat-Général demandant des secours et témoignant de leur impatience de retourner dans leur patrie.

Rapport du 22 Octobre, 1867.

La canonnière Prussienne "Blitz" a débarqué cette semaine 250 femmes et enfants Crétois recueillis à Spinalunga. Voulant profiter de cette occasion pour quitter la Crète, une vingtaine de volontaires Hellènes se sont déguisés en femmes, et ont ainsi réussi à s'embarquer à bord de la canonnière. Le commandant du "Blitz" l'a raconté lui-même.

Un rapport du Vice-Consul de Turquie à Milos informe que deux navires Russes, le "Bombori" et le "Mercure," y ont débarqué, le 16,1,260 femmes et enfants d'Armyro; que le bâtiment de guerre Hellénique le "Parolis," et le bateau à vapeur "l'Eyéon" de la Compagnie de Navigation Grecque en ont transporté 800 au Pirée; que le Commandant-en-chef de la division navale Russe aurait certifié au Sous-Préfet de Milos que l'annexion de la Crète à la Grèce était décidée, et que bientôt douze bâtiments de guerre Russes et six Americains viendraient dans les eaux de la Crète pour appuyer cette décision du Gouvernement Russe; qu'enfin la misère qui existe à Milos ne peut manquer d'amener des troubles entre les indigènes et les émigrés Crétois.

Rapport du 22 Octobre, 1867.

La situation des émigrés Crétois en Grèce devient de plus en plus critique. Pendant la semaine courante une dizaine de Crétois se sont présentés au Consulat demandant aide et assistance. Le Consulat les a secourus et a repatrié quelques uns d'entre eux. Il a jugé superflu de faire des représentations aux autorités de Syra, sachant que celles-ci répondraient par des dénégations, et qu'une telle démarche n'aboutirait qu'à aggraver le malheureux état des Crétois.

Le Consulat en a entretenu confidentiellement les Consuls d'Angleterre, d'Autriche et de France, et leur a demandé d'en informer leurs Gouvernements. Ces messieurs ignoraient entièrement que les autorités de Syra mettaient des entraves au repatriement des Crétois, ce qui provient de ce qu'ils ont à leur service des indigènes qui ont intérêt à ne pas leur dire toute la vérité. Le Consul d'Angleterre a pour Chancelier M. Sapunzachi, Crétois sujet Hellène, membre du Comité Insurrectionnel, et Agent Consulaire Américain.

Le Consul d'Autriche est un ancien employé du Gouvernement Hellenique, et le Consul de France puise ses informations dans des sources Grecques. Cependant, sur la demande de M. Erskine d'Athènes, M. Lloyd vient de constater et d'exposer dans un rapport adressé aux Missions Britanniques à Constantinople et à Athènes qu'en effet les Crétois qui se trouvent à Syra désirent vivement retourner en Crète, et que pour les empêcher de la faire on a recours aux menaces et aux mauvais traitements, voire même à l'emprisonnement. De son côté, le Consul de France a promis de faire un rapport sur ce dont le Consulat-Général de Turquie l'avait entretenu.

Les Crétois qui se sont présentés au Consulat Ottoman ont rapporté que M. Doubnitzky, Consul de Russie, distribuait des habits, &c., aux Crétois qui s'adressaient à lui, ou bien les recommandait au Comité Insurrectionnel, qui alors faisait quelque chose pour eux.

Rapport du 22 Octobre, 1867.

Les deux clippes-pirates, "l'Enossis" et la "Crète," attendent le courrier de la Canée pour partir pour la Crète avec 200 Crétois, attendus demain du Pirée, et avec des vivres, des armes et des munitions.

Le Comité est à bout de ressources pécuniaires. Ses membres ont été remplacés par de notables négociants Syriotes. Les Hellènes désespèrent de l'annexion. M. Sapunzachi, membre de l'Epitropie Insurrectionnelle, a dit à M. Mélik, gérant du Consulat-Général de Turquie, que les affaires de la Crète tournaient mal, et qu'il lui tardait, ainsi qu'à ses amis, d'en voir la fin.

Rapport du 6 Novembre, 1867.

Les secours donnés journellement par le Consulat aux émigrés ont opéré un grand revirement dans les esprits des Crétois. Ceux-là même qui faisaient de l'opposition au Gouvernement Impérial se voient maintenant dans la nécessité de recourir au Consulat

déposer leurs plaintes et faire connaître leur déplorable situation. Malgré les faux bruits que les Agents du Comité font circuler à Hermopolis pour les retenir, les émigrés se présentent journellement au Consulat pour obtenir des passeports, et s'embarquent pour la Crète, non plus clandestinement, mais au vu et au su de tout le monde, les autorités et le Comité ne les contraignant plus à rester, à cause du manque de fonds nécessaires pour les besoins des Crétois, et des troubles qu'ils pourraient occasionner à Syra.

Rapport du 6 Novembre, 1867.

"L'Enossis" a débarqué la semaine dernière à Souya, en Crète, 50 Crétois, des armes, des munitions, des vivres, des vêtements, &c., et a amené à Syra trois familles Crétoises.

Ce clippe-pirate a complété un nouveau chargement, et attend des nouvelles de la Crète pour s'y diriger.

No. 6.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 30.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, November* 15, 1867.

I EXPRESSED to the Sultan the regret with which I had heard that Albanian troops were being dispatched to Candia, for that his enemies would be sure to accuse him of carrying on a barbarous system of uncivilized warfare.

His Majesty declared there was no truth in the assertion; or if there was, the circumstance had been kept from his knowledge which he did not think probable. He would, however, at once direct inquiry to be made into the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 7.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 30.)

(Extract.) *Athens, November* 20, 1867.

IT is obvious that so long as 40,000 or 50,000 inhabitants of the island, rendered desperate by the destruction of their houses and of all they possess, are driven into exile, and are living upon charity abroad, there is but little hope of any real pacification of the island.

On the other hand, I perceive undoubted symptoms that the means hitherto employed by Greece to keep alive the insurrection are gradually being exhausted. The blockade-runner "Enosis" no longer makes such frequent trips to Crete as she used. From time to time she does, it is true, run across with a cargo of provisions and ammunition and a few returning Cretans, but so seldom that I can only suppose that the Committee is no longer able to provide funds for a more regular supply of provisions.

I understand also that dissensions have broken out in the Committee of management here, and that two or three of its members have resigned.

In short, I imagine that both parties are much exhausted by the protracted struggle, and the only question is which will have to give in first.

Mr. Consul Ongley reports from Patras that the Cretans have been suffering lately a good deal from the cold weather and from want of clothing. Many have died and many more are ill. Mr. Black mentions that at Missolonghi the Committee have altogether stopped the rations hitherto served out, and I may add that great misery exists amongst the 12,000 or 13,000 Cretans residing in this neighbourhood.

The Russian corvette "Bombori" landed upwards of 300 Cretan refugees at the Piræus a few days ago, but no other vessels of war are now transporting families.

No. 8.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 3, 1867.

I HAVE to instruct your Excellency to acquaint the Porte that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction, from your despatch of the 15th of November, that the Sultan has informed you that there was no truth in the assertion that Albanian troops were being dispatched to Candia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 9.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, November* 18, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of ships of war and troops as follows, since the date of my last report:—Divisional General Mehmet Pasha, on the 12th instant, from Constantinople, with four companies of Sappers and Miners, a supply of tools and ammunition.

A battalion of infantry was conveyed from the capital by the cruizer "Rosina" on the 15th, and later another battalion by the "Shepper" corvette.

A new blockader, the "Ruby," recently entered Suda Bay, coming directly from Liverpool. The master and rest of the crew, who are all English, have since been replaced by a Turkish Imperial crew, the former also proceeding on to Constantinople.

The "Peiki-Zafer" has just brought 1,000 regulars from Beyrout.

The "Forbin," French corvette, has arrived in Suda Bay, and is to be stationed in these waters.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Wizard" left Canea Port on the 13th instant, for Malta, ng been relieved by the "Tyrian," which arrived on the same day.

His Excellency Hussein Pasha and staff are making a tour of inspection to Retimo and Candia ports.

Four battalions, commanded by Mehmet Pasha, marched out yesterday to Malaxa on a reconnaissance to the Valley of Keramia.

Besides Coroneos, I hear that Captains Petropoulakis and Smolensk, MM. Nicholaidis, Pappadakis and Antoniadis, have all returned to Greece.

A number of other Hellenic volunteers have also left.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 10.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 6.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, November* 25, 1867.

I HAVE had more than one conversation with Fuad Pasha within these last few days, on the affairs of Crete, and more especially with reference to the suggestion of Baron de Beust, that the Porte should consent to an inquiry in the island, on the understanding that the sovereign rights of the Sultan were to be respected.

The Council of Ministers has been deliberating upon the matter; and this morning I found Fuad Pasha less disposed than I had thought him on a previous occasion to follow the course proposed by M. de Beust.

He considers that, limit the inquiry as you may, it cannot but be productive of the most mischievous effects, and that foreign intriguers could not fail to convert it into a vehicle for expressing the necessity of annexation to Greece.

The complaints or grievances of the Cretans are too well known to require a Committee of Inquiry to bring them out; and the Porte is prepared, without further inquiry, to make all the concessions which it would be possible to make after it.

I reminded Fuad Pasha that your Lordship had expressed the opinion of Her Majesty's Government in favour of granting autonomy to the Cretans.

To this he replied, "Yes; but what does that mean? It is necessary to define what is understood by the word autonomy, for there are half-a-dozen different autonomies in the Empire; for instance, in the Principalities, in the Lebanon, in Samos, in Egypt, in Tripoli, in Tunis. Does it imply a Prince elected by the people, a Pasha named by the Sultan for a term of years, or a Governor appointed for life? The Government has proposed a certain system for Crete; but if it is considered insufficient, let its defects be pointed out, and let it be said in what way it may be rendered more acceptable, for we are very ready to listen to the suggestions of our friends; but do not paralyze us by vaguely telling us our proposals are insufficient, or ask us to grant autonomy without defining what is meant by the term."

No. 11.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 6.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, November* 25, 1867.

I SAW Fuad Pasha this morning, and spoke to him of the form of answer to the declaration of the Four Powers recommended by M. de Beust.

I found him very unwilling to consent to the inquiry, even in the shape thus suggested, but apparently ready, without further inquiry, to make almost any concession not implying the cession of the island.

No. 12.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 6.)

(Extract.) *Athens, November* 28, 1867.

THE blockade-runner "Enosis" left Syra with a cargo of ammunition, stores, and a number of returning Cretans, on the 20th instant for Candia, but was run into at night near Cerigo, by a sailing vessel, said to be English, and suffered so severely from the collision that she was compelled to put back to Syra with loss of main-mast and boats. The "Enosis" was cut down to the water's edge in her after cabin and hold, about eight feet, and the deck beams, &c., were broken. The bags of bread she was taking to Crete were hove overboard to stop the leak, and the vessel was then heeled over so as to lift the damaged part out of the water, and she thus managed to get back to port.

Mr. Consul Lloyd, in reporting these details, adds that the "Enosis" cannot be repaired under a month, and that the "Crete" was to take her place, leaving on the 26th instant for the Coast of Sphakia.

No. 13.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, December* 7, 1867.

YOUR Excellency will remember that so far back as the 17th of January last, I instructed you, when Ambassador at Constantinople, to suggest to the Porte the system of Government established in the Lebanon as one which might be applied to Crete. The plan was not then acceptable to the Porte; it might be so now: but though I allude to it I do not mean to advocate it as the only system of the kind that is applicable to Crete, or to preclude Her Majesty's Government from considering or recommending to the Porte any other which might appear preferable.

No. 14.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, November* 25, 1867.

THE information lately transmitted to me from Candia by the British Vice-Consul represents that province as still in a very unsettled state. There is great misery amongst

the Turkish population; burglaries are of nightly occurrence in the town; and the action of the authorities is, to a certain extent, paralyzed.

One of the Treasury Secretaries had absconded with a sum of Government money, and is said to have since joined the insurgents.

The Acting British Consular Agent at Retimo further reports to me, under date the 18th instant, that the result of the elections in that town had not been altogether favourable to the Government. Sawas Bey had caused one oke of wheat to be issued daily to every poor Christian in that town.

His Excellency Hussein Avni Pasha and Staff have returned hither from Candia and Retimo.

Reconnaissances are being made by Raouf, Mehmet, and Ali Riza, Pashas in Kydonia, Kissamos, and Apokarona; but although I am unable to assert that a collision has actually taken place in any of those districts between the natives and the troops, yet, according to a report just received, some shots were exchanged the day before yesterday near Mescla, Ali Riza Pasha's column having been inveigled into an ambush while being conducted thither by a band of Lakkiotes.

I hear that French and other foreign ships, except Russian, have orders to discontinue the transport of Cretan families so long as hostilities shall not have recommenced.

The Provisional Government, in another and lengthy circular addressed to the Consuls from Kurmas in Apokorona, on the 7th instant, refutes anew the contents of the Vizirial Proclamation of the 1st instant, and also expresses "a determination to prolong the sanguinary struggle until such time as the wishes of the people can be realized, &c."

It concludes by saying, "that the Cretan people will assemble in every district on the 16th instant, in order deliberately to declare, *vivâ voce* and in writing, its wishes and resolution.

"At the Assembly in question the Grand Vizier and the Consular Body may assist, if his Highness and the latter wish to do so, and then listen and see what are the real sentiments of the people; and at the same time judge how far the assertions made by the Grand Vizier are well founded."

A Firman was formally read at the Palace on the 22nd instant, in presence of the Grand Vizier, and the principal officers of the Government, and such of the Christian Delegates as have come to Canea. The Firman confirms the new Administrative Organization for the island, as promulgated by Aali Pasha. I hear that exemption from taxation for ten years to come is also offered to the island, as a further inducement for the insurgents to submit.

The insurrection is stated to have already cost the Imperial Government 4,000,000 liras, and the Viceroy of Egypt from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 liras, to say nothing of the immense sacrifice of life to both of the contending parties; and the rebellion cannot yet be said to be fairly stamped out.

The island itself has been ravaged and half-depopulated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 15.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, November* 28, 1867.

THE following nominations have been made for the posts of Governor-General, of Governors of districts, and of other functionaries for the vilayet of Crete:—

Hussein Avni Pasha, Governor-General and Commander-in-chief of the troops;

Hamid Bey, a native of Canea, Counsellor to the Governor-General;

Caratheodori Alexander Effendi, also Counsellor to the Governor-General;

Pertew Pasha, Governor of Candia (two-tailed Pasha);

Sawas Effendi, promoted to the rank of Pasha and appointed Governor of Sfakia;

Kostaki Adossides Effendi, promoted to the rank of Pasha and appointed Governor of Lasithi;

Mustapha Pasha, ex-Muavan of the Vilayet of the Danube, promoted to the rank of Pasha and appointed Governor of Retimo;

Ali Riza Effendi has been appointed Controller-General of Crete;

Sadik Effendi, appointed to be Chief Clerk of the Turkish correspondence;

Petridhi Effendi, a native of Crete, appointed Chief Clerk of the correspondence in Greek;

Drakaki Effendi, appointed Muavin or Assistant to the Governor of Candia;
Abidin Bey appointed Muavin to the Governor of Lasithi;
Bekhjet Bey, appointed Muavin to the Governor of Sfakia;
Nicola Gramatikaki Effendi, appointed Muavin to the Governor of Retimo.

The appointments, the greater proportion of them being conferred upon Christians, are calculated to convey an impression that the organization of the Administration by Aali Pasha has proceeded much further than I believe to be the case.

The nomination of Governors for Sfakia and Lasithi would seem to imply that those districts had submitted to the authority of the Turks; whereas, unless I am greatly misinformed, they continue in the hands of the insurgents, and the new functionaries are little likely to proceed to the seat of their Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 16.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 14.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the address of Aali Pasha to the Cretan Delegates, communicating to them the new "Règlement" for the government of the island, and charging them with the duty of making its bearings known to their several districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Address of Aali Pasha to the Cretan Assembly, November 22, 1867.

(Traduit du Grec.)
Messieurs,

J'ESPERE qu'aujourd'hui, Dieu aidant, s'ouvrira pour l'Ile de Crète une nouvelle ère de bonheur et de prospérité. En prenant connaissance du Firman et du Règlement Organique qui vous seront communiqués, vous serez à même de comprendre une fois de plus l'étendue de la sollicitude de notre Souverain pour votre patrie et de sa magnanimité à l'égard de vous tous. Le Gouvernement Impérial et l'administration locale qui relève de lui se feront un devoir de travailler nuit et jour à l'application du nouveau Règlement, et veilleront à faciliter l'exécution de la portion du dit Règlement dont la réalisation dépend exclusivement des habitants du pays. Mais il est indispensable, pour que les fruits heureux que nous sommes en droit d'attendre du nouveau programme ne soient pas perdus, que tout le monde se mette à l'œuvre avec franchise, sincérité et le désir de concilier tous les intérêts. Vous savez que le repos et le bien-être individuels dépendent exclusivement de la sécurité et du bien-être publics. Il est donc indispensable que chacun fasse un sacrifice à l'intérêt public et qu'un accord commun préside à vos destinées. La preuve qu'il doit en être ainsi, ressort évidemment des calamités qui pèsent sur votre île à la suite des menées égoïstes dont elle a été le théâtre depuis dix-huit mois.

Quelques-uns parmi vous, trompés par des promesses fallacieuses et cédant devant les menaces étrangères ont abandonné la saine interprétation de leurs intérêts pour se faire les instruments d'une révolte coupable, et ainsi ils ont ouvert pour votre patrie la source de tous les malheurs et ont attiré sur leur tête et sur celle de leurs familles les plus épouvantables calamités sans préjudice de la responsabilité qu'ils ont encourue devant Dieu et devant les hommes.

Vous avez pu voir, à n'en pas douter, que la conduite de notre Souverain à votre égard a été celle d'un père miséricordieux envers ses enfants égarés. Daignant pardonner plutôt que de sévir, il a itérativement fait proclamer une amnistie générale. Il vous appartient désormais de rentrer dans la ligne du devoir et d'obéir aux prescriptions des religions Musulmane et Chrétienne, conformes toutes deux à l'intérêt de votre île. Léguant le passé à l'oubli et vous rappelant tous que vous êtes les enfants d'une même patrie et les sujets du même Souverain, vous devrez vous attacher tous franchisement et sincèrement à la prompte réalisation des mesures de réparation et d'amélioration que les règlements actuels vous tiennent en réserve.

Le désir de Sa Majesté le Sultan consiste dans la prospérité de votre île et de tous ses habitants sans aucune distinction. Ce désir n'est limité que par votre bonheur et l'utilité générale. Ils seraient bien coupables, ceux qui ne travailleraient pas de toute leur volonté à la réalisation de ce désir et ceux qui élèveraient leurs passions personnelles au-dessus des intérêts généraux de leur patrie. Leur conduite serait inconciliable avec les prescriptions de toute religion et ne pourrait appartenir qu'à ceux qui méconnaissent les devoirs imposés par les sentiments de la patrie et de l'honneur.

Je ne doute point que vos compatriotes ne vous aient délégué précisément parce qu'ils vous savent pénétrés de ces sentiments, et parce qu'eux-mêmes possèdent les mêmes sentiments et le même désir. En conséquence, je crois pouvoir me féliciter d'être l'instrument de vos nouvelles destinées et des intentions libérales de notre auguste Souverain. La haute mission que Sa Majesté a daigné me confier, à moi, son humble Grand Vizir, consiste à jeter les fondements de la tranquillité de votre patrie et à inaugurer les règlements féconds en progrès pour l'avenir.

La nomination au Gouvernement Général de l'île et au commandement des troupes Impériales qui y tiennent garnison d'un personnage aussi distingué que son Excellence Hussein Avni Pacha, ainsi que celle de fonctionnaires Musulmans et Chrétiens dont vous serez bientôt à même d'apprécier le mérite, constitue une preuve de plus des sentiments de bienveillance que Sa Majesté vous a voués. En retour de ces bienfaits Sa Majesté notre magnanime Souverain ne vous demande que la fidélité et un patriotisme bien entendus. Ceci ne saurait être atteint autrement, je le répète, que par les efforts communs de tous les habitants en vue de faciliter l'application des règlements qui ont été élaborés pour votre bonheur moral et matériel. Il importe donc que chacun de vous se pénètre bien des avantages contenus dans le texte du nouveau Règlement, afin qu'à son retour au milieu de ses commettants il leur en explique le sens et la portée. Ainsi édifiés, ceux-ci feront porter leur choix dans les élections aux différents Conseils sur des personnes jouissant d'une bonne réputation et dignes de leur confiance. La conviction ne tardera pas à se faire jour que, désormais, tous les habitants de l'île doivent respecter les droits de chacun aux avantages communs et accomplir leurs devoirs réciproques.

Tout ce qui concerne la facile application du nouveau Règlement, comme aussi les mesures à prendre pour relever la malheureuse condition du peuple, sera discuté en commun avec vous. Il y aura lieu également de discuter conformément à la volonté du Sultan les améliorations à apporter dans l'ordre des œuvres d'utilité publique, telles que routes, écoles, ports, &c., dont l'île a besoin pour son développement matériel et intellectuel. Parmi ces travaux les plus urgents seront laissés à l'initiative du Gouvernement local et des Conseils existants, afin qu'il soit procédé à leur réalisation progressive.

Que Dieu bénisse les efforts que vous consacrerez à l'œuvre commune et les couronne d'un succès complet!

Vive le Sultan!

No. 17.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 14.)

(Extract.) *Athens, December* 4, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a copy of the last report I have received from Mr. Consul Lloyd with respect to the proceedings of the blockade-runners between Syra and Crete.

The whole Russian squadron, consisting of four vessels, left the Piræus last week, shortly after the King's return, for the purpose, as is alleged, of taking on board any refugees who may be desirous of leaving Crete; and some of these vessels may be expected back very shortly.

P.S., *December 5th.*—Since this despatch was written two of the Russian vessels have returned to the Piræus with about twelve hundred Cretan Refugees on board.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, November* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Greek blockade runner "Crete" has just returned from her first voyage to Crete. The "Enosis" had lately made the attempt; but being run into and severely damaged by a strange sailing-vessel near Cerigo, it is said she returned, and the "Crete" took the "Enosis'" cargo, which consisted of clothes, ammunition, and provisions, and some returning Cretans. She left Syra on the afternoon of the 27th instant, and went to Prevali, where she arrived at 9 P.M. of the 28th, landed everything, took on board about fifty women and children and sixteen returned volunteers, and returned here this forenoon, having had very bad weather during part of the voyage, but without meeting any Turkish cruizers either way.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 18.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, December* 2, 1867.

THE Russian squadron, consisting of the corvettes "Alexander Newsky," "Souvenir of Mercury," "Vikes," under the command of Rear-Admiral Boutakoff, arrived here on the morning of the 30th ultimo, from the Piræus, and having anchored off this port, steamed away for the coast during the night, in order to embark Cretan families and convey them to Greece.

The island having been constituted into a vilayet, the regulations for this new administrative organization have been compiled in Turkish and Greek, and a printed copy has just been furnished to each of the Consuls. The Constitution now granted has not, if I judge rightly, reassured the disaffected Christian population of the island. Suffice for me to remark that the charter provides that all civil, criminal, and commercial suits arising between Christians and Mussulmen shall be adjudicated by Mixed Tribunals, civil and commercial; yet, the code of laws emanating from such tribunals, and the attributes of the Demigerondia, are not specified, nor do they appear to have been framed.

2. Every mixed kaza, or district, will be represented conjointly by a Christian and a Mussulman Delegate, but the law for determining the mode of election is still held in abeyance.

3. The Imperial Government will allow out of the revenues of the island the necessary supplies for improving the country and developing its resources, with reference to public banks, establishing of works, education, commerce, industry, &c. All such measures, after having been duly considered and proposed by the Council General, must be equally approved and decreed by the Porte.

4. The taxes to be levied will be as heretofore, namely, the tithe on agricultural produce, exemption from conscription tax, excise on wine and spirits, customs duties, and the duty on salt and tobacco. The Council General is to devise the mode best suited for assessing the taxes, subject to the approval of the Imperial Government.

In conclusion, it is not stated whether the Governor-General shall not be a Christian whether an indemnity should not be granted to the unhappy sufferers by the Insurrection, Christian and Mahometan, and by way of a further peace-offering that the island may be exempted for some years to come from taxation.

Some fighting has recently occurred at the insurgent stronghold of Zurba, with a few casualties on both sides. In other respects, both the Imperial troops and the insurgents appear to be acting on the defensive. Zimbrakakis was at Zurba, and reported to be ill. The drooping spirits of the insurgents are said to have somewhat revived in consequence of renewed assertions from Greece of risings in different parts of the Empire next spring, and of an impending war between Turkey and Russia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 19.

Extracts of Reports from the Turkish Consulate-General at Syra.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, December 18.)

Le 19 Novembre, 1867.

LE nombre des émigrés Crétois qui quittent hebdomadairement le sol Hellénique augmente de jour en jour. Ainsi, j'ai délivré cette semaine des passes à onze Crétois, dont cinq pour la Crète, trois pour Smyrne, et trois pour le Port Saïd. Ceux qui vont pour l'intérieur de l'Empire n'ont aucun intérêt à rentrer en Crète, disent-ils; et tous fuient la pression du Comité. J'agis d'après les instructions que la Légation Impériale me transmet, et ne manque pas de la tenir au courant de tout ce qui se perpètre à Syra, et de l'informer de la situation et des mouvements des émigrés Crétois réfugiés ici.

J'ai l'honneur de soumettre ci-joint à votre Excellence, en original, un office responsif, dont copie a été transmise à la Légation Impériale relativement aux instructions que le Consulat-Général lui a transmises pour la rapatriement des émigrés Crétois.

Ainsi que votre Excellence le relèvera de la lecture de cette pièce, le désir unanime du peu de Crétois réfugiés dans cette île est de rentrer dans leurs foyers; mais les faux bruits débités par les agents secrets du Comité et la pression de l'Epitropie les maintiennent dans l'hésitation.

Votre Excellence trouvera aussi ci-annexées copies des rapports que j'ai adressés durant le cours de cette semaine aux autorités de la Crète et à la Légation Impériale à Athènes concernant les affaires Crétoises. "L'Enossis" est encore en rade, et on attend des fonds que le Lieutenant Pétropoulaki est chargé de porter en Crète. On m'assure que 70,000 drachmes sont arrivées Dimanche dernier au Comité; mais cette somme, dit-on, ne faisant pas face aux dépenses du soi-disant Gouvernement Provisoire, l'expédition du pirate sera ajournée jusqu'au Vendredi prochain.

Le 26 Novembre, 1867.

Le discours de l'Empereur et l'incident de "l'Enossis" ont jeté dans la consternation autorités, comité, patriotes, et philhellènes.

Ils désespèrent entièrement de la cause Crétoise et attendent une solution quelconque. Le manque de fonds contribue au désespoir de l'Epitropie philocrétoise, et les autorités locales font appel par une Proclamation, dont un exemplaire ci-joint, à la charité publique.

Quant aux Crétois, ils méditent un coup de tête, et bientôt ils prouveront par des actes qu'ils se moquent des Hellènes.

J'ai l'honneur de transmettre aussi ci-joint à votre Excellence une requête avec sa traduction qui m'a été adressée la semaine dernière par quelques Crétois qui ont été, selon les désirs qu'ils y manifestaient, rapatriés aux frais de l'Etat. Cette requête est signée par quatre Crétois seulement; mais ceux qui me l'ont présentée étaient au nombre de huit personnes, dont quatre se trouvaient être illettrées.

Annex.

Petition addressed to the Consulate-General by several Cretans.

(Traduction.)

M. le Consul,

NOUS, Soussignés, Crétois et sujets de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, portons humblement à votre connaissance qu'ayant quitté notre patrie dans l'unique but de ne pas être entraînés par les brigands qui ont porté le trouble dans notre pays, et de ne pas prendre les armes contre le Gouvernement de notre auguste Souverain, dont nous avons toujours été les humbles et fidèles sujets, aujourd'hui notre unique et commun désir est de rentrer dans nos foyers, ne pouvant plus supporter la misère qui nous accable, et les menaces des Hellènes qui nous obligent par la force à nous rendre armés en Crète.

Nous venons donc vous prier, M. le Consul, de nous donner aide et assistance et de rendre compte de notre situation au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Sultan notre auguste Souverain, dont nous implorons la clémence et le pardon.

Nous avons, &c.

(Suivent les signatures.)

No. 20.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 20.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, December* 10, 1867.

SUBKI BEY, the Minister of Public Instruction, who had been sent to Crete to confer with the Grand Vizier, returned two days ago with despatches from his Highness.

Aali Pasha reports the new organization to be working to the satisfaction of all parties, and hopes the Government will not adopt the suggestion of M. de Beust, and consent to an enquiry.

The result of it, he considers, would be that the tranquillity obtained at so great a sacrifice would at once be subverted.

Fuad Pasha entirely concurred in the opinion expressed by the Grand Vizier; and at a Council held last night, it was unanimously adopted by the other Ministers.

No. 21.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 20.)

(Extract.) *Athens, December* 12, 1867.

I TAKE this opportunity of forwarding a copy of a despatch which has been addressed to me by Mr. Consul Lloyd, reporting that the "Crete," blockade-runner, has succeeded in landing another cargo of stores in Crete without being molested by the Turkish cruizers.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, December* 7, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report to you a second voyage of the Greek blockade runner "Crete" (49th of blockade running) to Crete and back. She left Syra on Thursday, the 5th instant, at 10 A.M., laden with the usual cargo of provisions, clothes, and ammunition, and about eighty returning Cretans, and went by Milo to Agia Pelagia; but finding there a Turkish cruizer at anchor, the "Crete" proceeded to Phodeli, where she arrived at 4 A.M. of the 6th instant, the bad weather, however, preventing her from landing anything there. She went to Santorino, and after remaining there a few hours, she went again to Agia Pelagia, where she arrived at 8 P.M. of the same day (the 6th), landed everything, and took on board twenty-five returning volunteers, and arrived here at 11 A.M. this day, without interruption.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 22.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 24.)

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, December* 9, 1867.

DURING the past week batches of peasants, Christian and Mussulman, have been daily repairing to this town from various districts in Canea province, for the purpose of providing themselves with corn, the Grand Vizier causing one measure of barley and half a measure of wheat to be issued gratis, from the Government stores to every individual furnished with a permit to that effect. Small sums of money are likewise being given to some of the most needy. It is proposed to carry out at Retimo and Candia the same measures of relief as are being adopted in this town.

His Highness Aali Pasha, accompanied by Cabouli Pasha and Server Effendi, embarked yesterday for Candia.

Early this month a band of insurgents surprised a party of Cretan Turks at Hierapetra, and made prisoners several females in the act of picking olives.

At Assites, in Malanese, the Imperial troops fell upon and dispersed a number of insurgents.

No. 23.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 29.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 15, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the Judicial Organization for Crete which Aali Pasha has proposed in conformity with the Organic Regulation by which all suits between Christians and Mussulmans are to be decided by Mixed Tribunals, to be established in the districts, the Governments, and at the seat of Government.

The Mixed Tribunals of the districts are to consist of a President and four Judges. The President to be named by the Government; the Judges to be elected by the districts; in the case of mixed districts two of them being chosen by the Christians, and two by the Mussulmans.

The Government Mixed Tribunals are also to consist of a President and four Judges; the former named by the Government, the Judges to be chosen from a list made by two Christians and two Mussulmans selected by every district.

In the Governments exclusively Christian or Mussulman the Judges of the Mixed Tribunal shall all be Christian or all Mussulman.

The Mixed Tribunal of the General Government is to be composed of a President named by the Government, and four Judges elected in a rather different manner.

The attributions of these different Tribunals are laid down in detail; their sentences to be pronounced in Greek and in Turkish.

Three Commercial Courts are likewise to be established—at Canea, at Retimo, and at Candia; their Members, with the exception of the President, being elected by the principal merchants of both religions.

In every village there is to be a Council of Elders, and in every Government two "Demogeronties," one Christian, and one Mussulman composed in a similar manner, having greatly the character of Courts of Arbitration.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 23.

*Judicial Organisation for the Island of Crete.**

Préambule.

CONFORMEMENT aux Articles, 9, 10, et 11 du Règlement Organique de l'Ile de Crète sanctionné par Sa Majesté le Sultan, les tribunaux de la loi Musulmane demeurant exclusivement chargés du jugement de certaines contestations spéciales entre Musulmans, les procès au sujet d'intérêts particuliers commerciaux, la poursuite des délits et descrimes, ainsi que toutes les contestations entre Musulmans et Chrétiens, seront dévolus à la compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes établis hiérarchiquement dans les Districts, les Gouvernements, et au siége du Gouvernement Général, ainsi que des Tribunaux de Commerce. En conséquence, le présent Règlement concernant la composition, le mode d'élection, la compétence, le mode d'appel des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts, des Gouvernements et du Gouvernement Général, les règles applicables aux Tribunaux de Commerce, aux Conseils des Anciens ou Demogéronties des villages ou des Gouvernements, a été approuvé par Sa Majesté le Sultan.

Chapitre I.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts.*

Article 1. Il y aura un Tribunal Mixte par District.

Art. 2. Il sera composé d'un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 3. Les fonctions de Président seront remplies par un Juge, qui sera choisi, nommé, révoqué, et rétribué par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 4. Les Juges siégeant au Tribunal Mixte de District seront électifs. Ils seront pris sur les listes dressées par les Sous-Gouverneurs.

Art. 5. A cet effet, le Sous-Gouverneur dressera une liste de tous les habitants mâles établis dans le district âgés de vingt-et-un ans révolus, et qui ne se trouveront pas dans les cas d'incapacité prévus par les Articles suivants.

Art. 6. Seront incapables d'être portés sur la liste dont il est parlé dans l'Article précédent: 1, ceux qui ne savent ni lire ni écrire; 2, les domestiques et serviteurs à gages; 3, ceux à qui l'exercice des droits civils politiques ou de famille a été interdit conformément

* For the "Règlement" in its complete form, see Inclosure in No. 67, page 66.

à la loi pénale ; 4, les faillis non-réhabilités ; 5, ceux qui ne sont pas sains d'esprit ; 6, ceux qui sont en état d'accusation ou de contumace ; 7, ceux qui ont été condamnés à des peines afflictives ou infamantes, ou par délit de vol, d'escroquerie, abus de confiance, usure, attentat aux mœurs, vagabondage, mendicité, et ceux qui à raison de tout autre délit auront été condamnés à plus d'un an d'emprisonnement.

Art. 7. Seront exclus de la liste tous les fonctionnaires publics chargés d'un service actif, ainsi que les militaires en activité de service.

Art. 8. La liste sera divisée en deux colonnes, dont l'une portera les noms des habitants Musulmans, et l'autre ceux des habitants Chrétiens. Elle sera affichée sur la porte des mosquées, des églises, de la résidence du Sous-Gouverneur, et partout où besoin sera.

Art. 9. Pendant les dix jours qui suivront cette publication, tout habitant pourra réclamer, soit contre une inscription, soit contre une omission, en déposant la réclamation au Conseil d'Administration du district. Cette réclamation sera jugée dans les huit jours, sauf recours devant le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement, et au besoin devant le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général. Ces recours successifs, qui dans tous les cas devront être jugés dans la huitaine sans frais, seront formés, sous peine de décheance, dans les dix jours qui suivront la notification de la décision. Les additions ou retranchements opérées par suite des décisions intervenues seront affichés dans le district, ainsi qu'il a été dit ci-dessus.

Art. 9. Cette liste sera permanente. Tous les ans avant le 1 Novembre, elle sera rectifiée par le Gouverneur du district, qui retranchera les habitants décédés ou devenus incapables, et ajoutera ceux qui auront acquis dans l'intervalle les conditions exigées.

Art. 10. Dans la première semaine du mois de Janvier de chaque année, le Sous-Gouverneur invitera les habitants Chrétiens et Musulmans de chaque district de choisir sur les listes ainsi dressées les quatre personnes qui devront siéger comme juges au tribunal mixtes ; dans les districts mixtes les habitants Musulmans éliront deux membres Musulmans parmi ceux inscrits sur la liste, les habitants Chrétiens éliront également deux membres Chrétiens. Dans les districts habités exclusivement par des Chrétiens ou des Musulmans, tous les quatre membres seront Chrétiens ou Musulmans, selon le cas. Il sera dressé procès-verbal régulier de l'élection, lequel sera signé par le Sous-Gouverneur ; copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président de tribunal pour être gardé aux archives.

Art. 11. Chaque juge du Tribunal Mixte, ainsi élu, recevra pour l'année pour laquelle il sera en exercice, une rétribution fixée à 3,000 piastres. Cette rétribution sera divisée en autant de portions égales qu'il y aura de séances dans l'année. Les jours et heures des séances seront fixés par le Président du tribunal dès le commencement de l'année dans un règlement approuvé par le Président du tribunal qui connaîtra de l'affaire. La portion afférent aux Juges absents d'une séance, sans excuse valable, sera retenue et partagée entre les Juges présents.

Art. 12. La direction des débats appartiendra exclusivement au Président ; c'est à lui qu'il appartiendra également de déclarer la clôture des débats, de poser aux Juges les questions de droit ou de fait, auxquelles questions les Juges seront tenus de répondre par oui on par non, de recueillir les voix, de faire l'application de la loi, de prononcer les jugements, de les montrer, d'en surveiller la rédaction et l'expédition.

Chapitre II.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement.*

Art. 13. Il y aura un Tribunal Mixte par Gouvernement.

Art. 14. Ce tribunal sera composé d'un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 15. Le Président du Tribunal de Gouvernement sera choisi, nommé, révoqué, et rétribué directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 16. Les Juges des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement seront électifs ; ils seront choisis de la manière ci-après.

Art. 17. Chaque district déléguera tous les ans auprès du Gouverneur, deux Chrétiens et deux Musulmans chargés de désigner, sur les listes dressées pour tous les districts de l'Ile, ainsi qu'il a été expliqué dans les Articles 4 et 5 ci-dessus, les personnes qui devront siéger comme juges auprès du Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement.

Art. 18. Les délégués Musulmans éliront à la pluralité des voix les Juges Musulmans. Les délégués Chrétiens éliront également à la pluralité des voix les Juges Chrétiens. La durée des fonctions de ces Juges sera de deux ans. A la fin de la première année, à dater de la mise à exécution de la présente Loi, le sort décidera lesquels des deux Juges Chrétiens et du deux Juges Musulmans seront remplacés. Les années suivantes il y aura toujours deux Juges sortant, un Musulman et un Chrétien, qui auront exercé leurs fonctions pendant deux ans et qui devront être remplacés par ceux élus par l'Assemblée des Délégués dont il a été parlé ci-dessus.

Art. 19. Dans les Gouvernements dont la population sera exclusivement Musulmane ou Chrétienne, les Juges du Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement seront aussi tous les quatre Musulmans ou Chrétiens.

Il sera dressé, dans tous les cas, procès-verbal régulier de leur élection, lequel procès-verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement pour être gardée aux archives.

Art. 20. Chaque Juge du Tribunal de Gouvernement ainsi élu recevra pour l'année pour laquelle il sera en exercice, une rétribution fixée à 6,000 piastres. Cette rétribution sera divisée en autant de portions égales qu'il y aura de séances dans l'année. Les jours et heures des séances seront fixés par le Président du Tribunal dès le commencement de l'année dans un réglement approuvé par le Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouverneur-Général. La portion afférente aux Juges absents d'une séance sans excuse valable sera retenue et partagée entre les Juges présents.

Art. 21. Les dispositions de l'Article 12 concernant les attributions, les droits et les devoirs des Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de districts seront également applicables aux Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement.

Chapitre III.—*De la Composition du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.*

Art. 22. Le Tribunal Mixte du Gouverneur-General sera établi au siège du susdit Gouvernement.

Art. 23. Le susdit Tribunal sera composé d'un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 24. Les fonctions de Président seront remplies par un Juge choisi, nommé, révoqué et rétribué directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 25. Les quatre Juges seront électifs.

Art. 26. Chaque district déléguera tous les ans, auprès du Gouvernement Général deux Musulmans et deux Chrétiens chargés de désigner en Assemblée, comme à la pluralité absolue des voix, un Juge Musulman et un Juge Chriétien appelées à remplacer le Juge Musulman ou le Juge Chrétien sortant.

La durée des fonctions des Juges du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général est de quatre ans.

A la fin de la première année de la mise à exécution de la présente Loi, le sort désignera lequel des quatre juges primitivement élus sera remplacé. Si le premier juge sortant est un Chrétien, le Juge sortant de l'année suivante sera tiré au sort parmi les deux Juges Musulmans et *vice versâ*. Il sera ainsi procédé annuellement au remplacement alternatif d'un Juge Musulman ou d'un Juge Chrétien. A la fin de la deuxième année le sort décidera lequel des deux Chrétiens ou des deux Musulmans restant, devra être remplacé. Après la deuxième année le principe du remplacement alternatif d'un Musulman et d'un Chrétien dispensera d'avoir recours au sort.

Art. 27. Il sera dressé procès-verbal régulier de l'élection, lequel procès-verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur-Général. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général pour être gardée aux archives.

Art. 28. Les Juges du susdit Tribunal recevront pendant tout le temps qu'ils resteront en exercice une rétribution annuelle de 9,000 piastres.

Art. 29. Un réglement du Président du susdit Tribunal déterminera les jours et heures des séances.

Art. 30. Les dispositions de l'Article 12 communes aux Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de district et de Gouvernement seront également applicables au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre IV.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.*

Art. 31. En attendant la rédaction et la publication d'un code de procédure civile et d'un code d'instruction criminelle, on se conformera pour le réglement de la compétence générale et spéciale des deux Tribunaux aux principes suivants.

Art. 32. Les Tribunaux Mixtes de district connaîtront au civil entre personnes de toute religion :—

En dernier ressort—

De toutes actions qui ont pour objet l'exécution d'une obligation, ou un meuble dont la valeur ne dépasse pas 500 piastres, ou un immeuble de 50 piastres de rente ;

A charge d'appel—

De ces mêmes actions jusqu'à la valeur de 1,000 piastres, ou 100 piastres de rente.

Il connaîtront en outre sans appel jusqu'à la valeur de 1,000 piastres, et à charge d'appel à quelque somme qu'elles s'élèvent :—

1. De toutes actions entre propriétaire et locataire ou fermier, entre le maître et les gens de service, domestiques ou ouvriers, lorsque ces actions ont leur source dans le contrat de louage.

2. Des actions pour dommages faits aux champs, fruits et récoltes, arbres, haies, fossés, canaux, maisons, et autres propriétés, lorsque les droits de propriété ne sont pas contestés.

3. Des actions en bornage, lorsque la propriété ou les titres qui l'établissent ne sont pas contestés.

4. Des actions relatives aux constructions et aux travaux à faire sur un mur dont la mitoyenneté n'est pas contestée.

5. De toutes actions possessoires.

6. Des actions civiles pour diffamation verbale ou pour injures publiques ou non publiques verbales ou par écrit, autrement que par la voie de la presse.

7. Des mêmes actions pour rixes ou voies de fait.

Art. 33. Si la demande reconventionnelle a pour objet des dommages intérêts fondés exclusivement sur la demande principale elle-même, le Tribunal Mixte de district est compétent pour en connaître à quelques sommes qu'ils s'élèvent. Dans le cas contraire, il ne sera nullement dérogé en ce qui concerne la demande reconventionnelle aux règles générales sur la compétence. Quant aux demandes réunies dans une même instance par le même demandeur on calculera l'importance des demandes cumulées pour apprécier le taux de la compétence.

Art. 34. La valeur des meubles ou des immeubles dont il a été parlé à l'Article 32, sera déterminée, en cas de contestation, par une expertise ordonnée par le tribunal saisi de l'appel.

Art. 35. Le Tribunal Mixte de District jugera au pénal toutes les infractions que la loi pénale qualifie de contravention, et punit de peines de simple police.

Chapitre V.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement.*

Art. 36. Le Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement connaîtra :—

Au civil :—

1. Des appels des Tribunaux Mixtes de District, dans tous les cas où l'appel en est recevable.

2. De toutes les actions personnelles, mobilières ou immobilières, qui ne sont pas attribuées par un texte spécial de loi à quelque autre tribunal, et cela en dernier ressort jusqu'à la valeur de 5,000 piastres, ou de 500 piastres de rente.

Art. 37. *Au pénal* :—

3. Des appels des jugements rendus par les Tribunaux de District en matière de contraventions de simple police.

4. Des infractions que la loi pénale qualifie de délits, et punit de peines correctionnelles.

Chapitre VI.—*De la Compétence Générale du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.*

Art. 38. Le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général connaîtra :—

Au civil :—

1. Des appels des Tribunaux de Commerce de l'île, dans le cas où l'appel en est recevable conformément aux dispositions du Code de Commerce Ottoman.

2. Des appels des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement dans les cas où l'appel en est recevable.

Au pénal :—

3. Des appels des jugements rendus par les Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement en matière de délits.

4. Des infractions auxquelles la loi pénale donne la qualification de crimes, et qu'elle punit de peines afflictives et infamantes.

Chapitre VII.—*De la Compétence Spéciale des Tribunaux Mixtes.*

Art. 39. En matière personnelle le défendeur sera assigné devant le Tribunal de son domicile ; s'il n'a pas de domicile, devant le Tribunal de sa résidence. S'il y a plusieurs défendeurs devant le Tribunal du domicile de l'un d'eux au choix du demandeur ;

En matière réelle devant, le Tribunal de la situation de l'objet litigieux ;

En matière de société, tant qu'elle existe, devant le Tribunal du lieu où elle est établie ;

En matière de succession, sur les demandes qui seraient intentées par des créanciers du défunt avant le partage, devant le Tribunal du lieu où la succession est ouverte ;

En matière de garantie, devant le Juge où la demande originaire sera pendante :

Enfin devant le Tribunal de la situation de l'objet litigieux, lorsqu'il s'agira des actions énumérées dans les alinéas 1 à 5 de l'Article 32.

Art. 40. Chaque Tribunal Mixte de District sera exclusivement compétent pour juger les contraventions commises dans les limites de sa circonscription territoriale.

Si le fait dont il est saisi est un délit qui emporte une peine correctionnelle ou plus forte, le Tribunal renverra les parties devant les autorités compétentes.

Tout Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement sera exclusivement compétent pour juger les délits commis dans les limites de sa circonscription territoriale. Si le fait dont il est saisi n'est qu'une contravention, il appliquera la peine et statuera s'il y a lieu sur les dommages-intérêts.

Si le fait est de nature à mériter une peine afflictive, le Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement renverra le prévenu devant le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.

Si le fait dont le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général est saisi est un délit ou une simple contravention, il appliquera la loi quant à la peine, et pourra renvoyer devant le Tribunal compétent pour la fixation des dommages-intérêts s'il y a lieu.

Dans les cas de renvoi d'un Tribunal à un autre, ainsi qu'il vient d'être dit, les procès-verbaux, ainsi que les actes d'interrogatoire, ainsi que tous autres actes, documents, objets y relatifs, seront renvoyés devant le Tribunal appelé à statuer définitivement.

Chapitre VIII.—*Dispositions communes aux Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.*

Art. 41. Les Membres des divers Tribunaux Mixtes seront indéfiniment rééligibles.

Art. 42. Il sera nommé, auprès de chaque Tribunal Mixte, un nombre de greffiers et d'huissiers, conformément aux dispositions d'un réglement spécial.

Art. 43. La grande majorité des habitants Chrétiens et Musulmans de l'Ile de Crète ne connaissant que la langue Grecque, les sentences des Tribunaux Mixtes seront rédigées en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 44. Les requêtes pourront être présentées directement au Tribunal compétent, sans qu'il soit nécessaire que l'autorité administrative en décrète le renvoi.

Art. 45. Les Tribunaux Mixtes connaîtront de toutes les difficultés qui surgiront au sujet de l'exécution de leurs sentences, ainsi que de celles émanées des Conseils des Anciens et des Tribunaux de Commerce placés dans les limites de leur juridiction territoriale.

Art. 46. Un tarif spécial déterminera les frais de justice devant les Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.

Art. 47. L'appel sera suspensif, sauf les cas ou l'exécution provisoire est permise par la loi et sans préjudice des mesures conservatoires ou de prévention que les parties demanderont ou que le tribunal estimera nécessaires en matière civile aussi bien qu'en matière pénale

Art. 48. Le jugement par défaut est admis. Il ne pourra être exécuté que trois mois après qu'il aura été rendu ; s'il n'y a pas de requête d'opposition, il sera exécuté tel quel, et aucune opposition ne sera admise postérieurement à l'exécution.

Art. 49. Le délai d'appel est de trois mois à dater de la signification en jugement.

Art. 50. Il n'y aura que deux degrés de juridiction en matière civile et pénale. Le pourvoi en cassation à Constantinople ne sera admis au pénal comme au civil que dans les cas suivants :—1. Violation de la loi ; 2. Incompétence ou excès de pouvoir ; 3. Inobservation de formes de procédure essentielles; 4. Contrariété de jugements rendus eu dernier ressort dans la même affaire entre les mêmes parties, sur les mêmes moyens.

Chapitre IX.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux de Commerce.*

Art. 51. Il y aura dans l'Ile de Crète trois Tribunaux de Commerce, dont un à la Canée, un à Rethymo, et le troisième à Candie.

Art. 52. La circonscription territoriale de chacun de ces trois Tribunaux sera déterminée par le Gouverneur-Géneral, assisté de son Conseil d'Administration.

Art. 53. Chacun de ces trois Tribunaux sera composé d'un Président et de quatre membres.

Art. 54. Le Président de chacun de ces Tribunaux sera choisi, nommé, révoqué et remunéré directement par le Gouvernement.

Art. 55. Les membres des Tribunaux de Commerce seront élus dans une assemblée composée des commerçants notables appartenant aux deux religions. Cette assemblée sera convoquée tous les aus, au mois de Janvier, par le Gouverneur-Général ou les Gouverneurs, et sera présidée par eux.

Art. 56. La liste des commerçants notables sera dressée sur tous les commerçants de l'arrondissement judiciaire de chacun des trois Tribunaux, par les soins de l'Administration, au commencement de chaque année. Cette liste sera divisée en deux colonnes, dont l'une portera les noms des notables commerçants Musulmans et l'autre ceux des notables commerçants Chrétiens. Seront applicables, en ce qui concerne ces listes, les dispositions des Articles 5, 6, et 8 ci-dessus.

Art. 57. Les membres Chrétiens de l'Assemblée choisiront les deux Juges Chrétiens devant siéger au Tribunal de Commerce parmi les Chrétiens portés sur la liste des commerçants notables; les membres Musulmans désigneront les Juges Musulmans sur la liste des notables Musulmans.

Art. 58. Tout commerçant pourra être nommé Juge s'il est âgé de vingt-cinq ans, et s'il exerce le commerce avec honneur et distinction depuis cinq aus.

Art. 59. L'élection sera faite au scrutin individuel à la pluralité absolue des voix, et il en sera dressé procès-verbal régulier, lequel procès-verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur-Général ou les Gouverneurs. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal pour être gardée aux archives. Les Juges sortant d'exercice pourront être réélus immédiatement pour une autre année.

Tout membre élu en remplacement d'un autre par suite de décès ou de toute autre cause ne demeurera en exercice que pendant la durée du mandat confié à son prédécesseur.

Art. 60. Il y aura près de chaque Tribunal de Commerce des greffiers et des huissiers en nombre suffisants nommés par le Gouvernement.

Art. 61. Pour les raisons indiquées dans l'Article 43 ci-dessus, les jugements des Tribunaux de Commerce seront rendus en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 62. Les fonctions de Juge de Commerce sont seulement honorifiques.

Chapitre X.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux de Commerce.*

Art. 63. La compétence des Tribunaux de Commerce est réglée par les Article-28 à 38 de l'Appendice du Code de Commerce Ottoman. Les demandes pourront y être introduites directement sans qu'il soit nécessaire que le renvoi en ait été préalablement décrété par l'autorité administrative.

Art. 64. Les contestations auxquelles pourraient donner lieu l'exécution des sentences rendues par les Tribunaux de Commerce seront portées devant les Tribunaux Mixtes du lieu où se trouve le Tribunal de Commerce qui a rendu le jugement.

Art. 65. L'appel des jugements des Tribunaux de Commerce dans les cas spécifiés par la loi sur la procédure commerciale, Articles et , sera porté par devant le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement General.

Chapitre XI.—*De l'Organisation des Conseils des Anciens ou Démogéronties.*

Art. 66. Chaque village, tel qu'il sera délimité par les soins de l'autorité administrative, aura un Conseil des Anciens.

Art. 67. Dans chaque Gouvernement il y aura une Démogérontie Chrétienne et une Démogérontie Musulmane. La Démogérontie Chrétienne de Gouvernement sera composée du chef spirituel, d'un membre Chrétien du Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement, d'un membre Chrétien du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement, et de deux membres élus par les membres Chrétiens des Conseils des Anciens des villages du Gouvernement, et dont les fonctions dureront trois ans.

Les Démogéronties Musulmans de Gouvernement seront composées d'une manière analogue.

Chapitre XII.—*De la Compétence des Conseils des Anciens.*

Art. 68. En ce qui concerne les contestations entre particuliers, les Conseils des Anciens des villages rempliront les fonctions de Juges de Paix conciliateurs. Les sentences rendues par les susdits Conseils ne seront obligatoires pour les parties, tant qu'elles n'auront pas été acceptées par les parties, ou que les parties ne s'en soient remises par écrit à l'arbitrage du Conseil des Anciens. Dans tous les cas les sentences rendues par les Conseils des Anciens ne seront exécutoires qu'après avoir été homologuées par le Tribunal Mixte dans le ressort duquel se trouve le Conseil des Anciens qui a rendue la sentence.

Art. 69. Les Démogéronties Chrétiennes de Gouvernement exerceront à l'égard des Chrétiens seulement les fonctions dévolues aux Démogéronties des villages en vertu de l'Article précédent. Elles sont en outre spécialement chargées de veiller à l'exécution fidèle des legs et des testaments des Chrétiens, et à l'administration des fortunes et des

biens de tous les Chrétiens de leur ressort qui se trouvent placés sous tutelle ou sous curatelle.

Art. 70. Les fonctions dont il a été parlé ci-dessus seront remplies à l'égard des Musulmans par les Démogéronties Musulmanes de Gouvernement.

Art. 71. L'appel des décisions que les Démogéronties Chrétiennes auront rendu dans les limites de leur compétence sera porté, lorsque la valeur de l'objet litigieux dépasse 5,000 piastres ou qu'elle est indéterminée, au Tribunal Patriarcal de Constantinople, qui prononcera en dernier ressort.

Quant à tout ce qui rentre dans les attributions extra-judiciaires et simplement tutélaires des Démogéronties Chrétiennes ou Musulmanes, celles-ci seront placées sous le contrôle général du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre XIII.—*Règles concernant les Conflits d'Attributions et de Compétence Positifs ou Négatifs.*

Art. 72. Lorsque deux autorités se seront déclarées toutes deux compétentes sur une seule et même question, comme aussi dans le cas où toutes deux se seront déclarées incompétentes pour connaître d'une affaire qui pourtant est nécessairement de la compétence de l'une d'elles, on suivra les règles ci-après.

Art. 73. Si les deux autorités dont il a été parlé ci-dessus appartiennent toutes deux à l'ordre administrative, la question de compétence sera réglée par les Conseils Administratifs de la manière qui sera déterminée dans le Règlement Administratif.

Art. 74. Si ces deux autorités sont deux Tribunaux Mixtes, la compétence sera réglée par le Tribunal Mixte qui devra connaître de l'appel de ces deux Tribunaux s'ils sont placés dans le ressort du même Gouvernement; et dans le cas contraire par le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général. Ce dernier sera également compétent à statuer sur les conflits qui s'élèveraient entre les Tribunaux Mixtes, les Tribunaux de la Loi Musulmane, et les Tribunaux de Commerce.

Art. 75. Dans tout autre cas l'autorité chargé de régler le conflit sera le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre XIV.—*Statistique Judiciaire.*

Art. 76. A la fin de chaque année le Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement sera tenu de présenter un tableau statistique de la justice dans l'île.

Ce tableau indiquera au civil comme au criminel le nombre des causes introduites devant le Conseil des Anciens, les Tribunaux Mixtes, les Tribunaux de Commerce, et les Tribunaux de la Loi Musulmane; le nombre et la nature des causes jugées en premier ressort ou en appel, le nombre de celles qu'il reste encore à juger, la durée moyenne des procédures, la religion des plaideurs, &c.

Art. 77. Le Président du susdit Tribunal sera en outre autorisée à faire suivre ce tableau des observations qu'il jugera nécessaires, et d'indiquer les améliorations et les changements dont l'expérience aura montré l'opportunité, ou que l'opinion publique semblera réclamer.

No. 24.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 29.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch I have addressed to Mr. Consul Dickson in reply to his despatch of the 2nd instant,* of which a copy was forwarded by him to your Lordship, on the subject of the new organization for Crete.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Mr. Elliot to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Constantinople, December* 16, 1867.

BY your despatch of the 2nd instant, you inform me that copies of the new Regulations for the administration of the Island of Crete have been furnished to the different

* See No. 18.

Consuls, and you point out various particulars in which they appear insufficient to reassure the disaffected Christian population.

Since the date of your despatch the Grand Vizier has forwarded to Constantinople the draft of the law for the constitution of the Mixed Tribunals and for defining their attributes and those of the Demigerondia.

The concessions lately asked by the Cretan delegates comprise as you are aware—

1. Exemption from taxation for certain number of years.
2. A subvention for indigent families and for rebuilding houses that have been destroyed during the insurrection.
3. The revision of the system of taxation.
4. The abolition of the "bedelich" or tax for exemption from military service.
5. The establishment of an agricultural bank.
6. The dredging of the ports.

These suggestions have been under consideration of the Porte, and there is reason to believe that the greater part, if not the whole of them, will be consented to.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 25.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

(Extract.) *Athens, December 18, 1867.*

THE accounts of the state of affairs in Crete, which appear from time to time in the Greek newspapers, continue to represent the Insurgent cause as far from being desperate. Mr. Stillman, the American Consul at Canea, writes on the 11th instant that two nights previously the insurgents had come down to Suda Bay and carried off a number of cattle and sheep kept there for the use of the Turkish fleet; that the affair lasted only twenty minutes in all, without loss on either side; that the fleet began firing, and that there was a great panic at Canea, the Turks being under the impression that the town was about to be attacked.

Great destitution was said to prevail amongst the native Mussulmans at Candia, and the Grand Vizier was reported to have gone there with Server Effendi and Adossides Pasha to devise measures for their relief.

The Russian Admiral informs me that on his last visit to Crete he left about 7,000 Christians on the southern shores of the island in a state of extreme destitution, and a large Russian corvette is about to be dispatched from hence to fetch away as many of them as she can transport.

I mention these particulars to show your Lordship that there is not the least disposition here to treat the insurrection as at an end, and that every effort will continue to be made by the Greek Government and people to prevent the pacification of the island, and to provoke disaffection in other parts of the Turkish Empire.

I may add that it is given out that Colonel Coroneos will shortly return to Crete with a large salary to take the direction of military operations.

No. 26.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 31.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, December 16, 1867.*

ON the 13th instant 2,000 Redifs arrived from Smyrna, and have since encamped outside this town. Reinforcements are still required to fill up the gaps caused by sickness amongst the several bodies of troops at present cantoned on various parts of the island.

The villages of Therisso and Zurba have just been occupied by divisions of troops commanded respectively by Mehmet Ali and Raouf Pashas; Captain Hadje Mikhali and Colonel Zimbrakakis, at the head of about 500 insurgents, on evacuating those strongholds have retreated through Keramia valley to Apokorona, possibly to Kurna, the present seat of the Provisional Government.

Great distress still prevails amongst the poor Mussulman population, the greater part of whom are crowded together in the towns of Canea, Retimo, and Candia, and receive but very scanty relief.

I am informed that the suffering Mussulman families in Candia town have petitioned

the Grand Vizier either to be allowed to reoccupy their lands on the island, or that Imperial Ottoman ships may remove them (who have always been loyal to their Sovereign), to some suitable part of Asia Minor; even as foreign ships have hitherto been transporting their Christian fellow-subjects to Greece.

The Greek blockade-runner "Crete" has twice appeared on the coast of this island within the present month, at Preveli and at Ayia Pelayia, where warlike stores and provisions have been landed, besides a few volunteers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 27.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 3, 1868.)

My Lord, *Athens, December* 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, a copy of a short letter from Mr. Consul Dickson, which reached me by last mail, and which appears to contain intelligence respecting the operations against the insurgents in Crete somewhat more recent than the date of Mr. Dickson's last official despatch to your Lordship.

I inclose likewise an extract from a letter from Mr. Consul Lloyd on the same subject, giving the version current at Syra of the action of Zurba between the Turkish troops and the insurgents, as well as of an affair said to have occurred near Kissamos.

The Greek papers are full of accounts of alleged successes of the insurgents under Hadji Mikali and Zimbrakaki, but they are so evidently exaggerated that I do not think it worth while to forward them to your Lordship. The fact, however, which is of importance is, that there are still, in various parts of Crete, bodies of native insurgents of sufficient strength to make head against the Turkish forces, and who indignantly repudiate any terms short of absolute separation from the Ottoman Empire.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

My dear Sir, *Canea, Crete, December* 17, 1867.

THE mail having now closed, and as the Austrian Lloyd's boat is hourly expected to arrive from Candia and Retimo on its return trip to Syra, I write these few lines in order to communicate to you the latest items of our news. Zurba and Therisso, it would appear, have been burnt down by the troops. According to Greek reports the insurgents, on quitting those two strongholds, were to proceed through Keramia to Vamos, the seat of Savas Pasha's Government. The latter consists of the districts of Sfakia, Apokorono, and Ayios-Vassili, one of the newly-constituted provinces of the island. The "Tulia," one of the Imperial steam yachts, arrived this morning from Constantinople with supplies, specie, &c., for the army. One of the passengers arrived, is Captain Hobart, R.N. He has just left for Candia to see the Grand Vizier. Husseim Pasha, Governor-General, also proceeds to Candia to-night. Some 900 more troops have arrived by the "Shoodiyeh" from Constantinople.

The two Turkish Admirals are at Candia.

The Turks openly accuse the Russian ships of secretly supplying the insurgents with arms and ammunition, while taking away Cretan families. How far this assertion is true could, I imagine, be better ascertained at Athens than here. Cretan families are being still liberally provided with corn by order of Aali Pasha. I have no time to report the above items to Constantinople or the Foreign Office.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extracts.) *Syra, December* 20, 1867.

CORONEOS is still here, being "zeto'd" wherever he appears. He went to the theatre last night, I hear, and there was a flare up of torches, &c., in his honour. It is said here his return to Crete will depend on circumstances, but what circumstances it is not said.

"Enosis" left, loaded for Crete, a day or two ago, for Poros first, there to take the engineers and crew that took "Crete" to Poros to be cleaned. "Hydra" was to have brought said crew here, but did not, being engaged by the Government, it is said, for some purpose or other.

A number of Cretan refugees, I hear, are to be sent from Piræus and elsewhere to Andros.

I have heard nothing more of difficulties made to departure of Cretans hence for Crete.

I have not an idea of the total cost of assistance from Syra to the insurgents; and if I had, and could name a sum or sums as having been given for the purpose, it does not exactly follow that the money has been all spent in the manner that it may be said to have been expended.

Cretans here have publicly accused members of the Committee of maladministration and malversation of the funds; but whether there has been such or not, I think it pretty sure that the Committee will always be accused of the same.

The boat from Crete came in late on Wednesday evening, and the "Austrian" for Piræus left soon afterwards. I did not get my letters till next day. Inclosed is a letter for you from Mr. Dickson; he writes me on the 16th, that the Grand Vizier is still at Canea, that corn is distributed even to the insurgents' families by his order, and that these pour into the towns daily from various parts of the island.

Another letter of the 16th (from Stillman), says there was a fight all day at Zurba on Friday, $\frac{1st}{13th}$ December, gained by Hadji Michali, over the Turks. The Christians were suffering from cold and hunger, snow being heavy on the mountains, and cold severe; that in Apokorono there were 3,000 insurgents under arms.

On the 18th he writes, that in the fight of Zurba the Turks were 4 battalions strong, and the Cretans only 300; that the Turks succeeded in entering the first houses of the village, but could not advance; that at night the affair was over when the corps of Kavari arrived; at sight of which the Turks retreated, leaving 200 dead on the way, and one cannon burst.

A Greek letter (Alexis), of the 18th, also reports the battle of Zurba; that the Turks were divided into two bodies, and attacking Zurba, they were allowed to take the first houses, and being attacked by the insurgents were obliged to retreat, leaving 200 dead, and taking 350 wounded as reported), to Alikianou; that if the Christians have sufficient bread, much fighting will take place at Zurba, as the Turks are determined to take it if possible; that the battle lasted twelve hours, and besides the dead and wounded the Turks lost, one cannon burst; that Hadji Michali reported to Canea, his letter being translated, and copy sent to the Consuls. That on Sunday, $\frac{3rd}{15th}$ December, the insurgents came down to Galata (outside Canea), in a place called Livadia, and took 250 sheep, and left without opposition; that on $\frac{30th\ November}{12th\ December}$, three battalions arrived from Syria; and on Sunday $\frac{3rd}{15th}$, two more from Constantinople, of which 400 are carpenters; that yesterday (17th), arrived a two-decker from Constantinople with letters for the Grand Vizier, but on account of bad weather, could not land at Canea; that to-day, 18th, the Vizier was expected back from Candia; that another fight had taken place at Kastelli of Kissamos, the Turks trying to pass Kakopetra were attacked by the Christians, and forced to return to the fortress; that Tziridani and Kopassi are still at Canea.

Hadji Michali writes, I am told, to M. Boyadjoglou, a member of the Cretan Committee here, and now gone to Crete; that he gained a brilliant victory over the Turks at Zurba, a proof, the writer says, of the failure of Aali Pasha's mission; that the Turks left many killed and wounded; and he begs it to be repeated to the Greeks, that the decision of the Cretans is, "union with mother Greece;" that Zimbrakaki, Costa Tzakonas, and two Sfakiote Chiefs took part in the late fight at Zurba.

* * * * * * *

I hear there was some speechifying and a good deal of vociferation at the theatre last night. Coroncos addressed the house, but I do not know exactly what he said; only some one cried, "Vive la révolution!" which was responded to by cries of "To Thessaly, Epirus, and Constantinople!" which occasioned tremendous cheering.

December 21st.—The representation at the theatre was given in honour of Coroneos; it was crowded. A table, with an olive crown upon it, was in the centre of the pit, and a speech was made to M. Coroneos (who was in the centre box of the middle tier), thanking him for what he had done in Crete. Coroneos replied, saying he had done but little; it was the Candiotes who had done all, and that he hoped ultimate success would crown their efforts. The crown of olive was then presented to him in his box; after which, the cries and cheering began. He was accompanied home with torches and rockets.

No. 28.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 8, 1868.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, December 23, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Candia, reporting the appearance of insurgent bands in Hierapetra and Sitia districts, and the depredations committed by them; and that in consequence Aarip Pasha, at the head of a flying column cantoned at Castle Pediada, had advanced against these insurgents. On the return of the troops to Pediada, and while these were passing through Rhizo district, some excesses appear to have been committed.

The Grand Vizier is still at Candia, but is expected to return hither very shortly. Caboulí Pasha and Server Effendi have already come. Sawas Pasha, the newly-appointed Christian Lieutenant-Governor over the three districts of Sphakia, Apokorona, and Saint Vassili, left yesterday for Vamos, where he is to reside for the present. Hadji Mikhali and a band of his followers are preparing, it is said, to attack the new Lieutenant-Governor, and even to eject him from his post.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, December 16, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to state to you that, after my last despatch of the 2nd instant, I have learned that the local authorities, by way of sea, have received a report that Hierapetra was blockaded by a body of 500 insurgents, while another column of about the same number was holding the straits between Camissi and Hierapetra, and a third column of about 200 insurgents has, without fear, penetrated into Sitia, the more eastern district of this Province of Candia, where they have operated a very important razzia upon flocks of sheep and droves of oxen belonging to Turks. This report has occasioned the advance of Arip Pasha with the troops stationed at Castelli of Pediada, in order to recapture the sheep and oxen driven away by the insurgents, but which was already under shelter, and consequently his expedition has not produced any result.

On his return back outrages were committed by the troops against peaceful unarmed Christian villagers, and especially in the villages Sycologos, Calami, and Epano Simi, in the district of Rhizo, and in the village Khersonesos of Pediada, a Christian villager, while ploughing in his field on the 11th instant, was slaughtered and cut to pieces, and his yoke of oxen has been seized.

It is also said that a Russian and Prussian steamer have taken families from the same place near the above mentioned village of Khersonesos.

His Highness the Grand Vizier, with the Imperial Commissioners Server Effendi, Caboli Pasha, and Costaki Effendi Addossides, arrived here on the 9th instant accompanied by many war steamers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 29.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, January 8, 1868.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le 25 Décembre*, 1867.

POUR faire suite à mes précédentes expéditions, je vous transmets ci-joint en copie un Rapport que je viens de recevoir de la part de la Légation Impériale à Athènes.

Vous voudrez bien signaler à l'attention du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique le navrant tableau tracé dans ce Rapport de la situation actuelle des familles Crétoises transportées en Grèce, ainsi que l'opposition acharnée que le désir de ces familles de ce rapatrier rencontre auprès des autorités Helléniques.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Photiades Bey to Fuad Pasha.

Monseigneur, *Athènes, le 28 Octobre*, 1867.

PLUS de 50,000 Crétois, chassés de leurs foyers par un implacable terrorisme ou séduits par les frauduleuses insinuations du dehors, traînent, à l'heure qu'il est, sur le sol Hellénique une vie de privations et d'angoisses. Leur sort empire de plus en plus à mesure que l'hiver s'avance, les maladies les déciment impitoyablement, et l'on m'assure que presque tous les nouveaux nés sont voués à une mort inévitable.

Tel est le résuilat malheureusement trop réel de l'intervention inopportune des bâtiments de guerre étrangers pour le transport des familles; aussi plusieurs des Représentants des Puissances étrangères à Athènes, au spectacle des maux dont ils sont témoins, regrettent que la mission humanitaire de leurs Gouvernements respectifs ait produit de si déplorables fruits.

Depuis que les ressources des Comités ont considérablement diminué, l'entretien des émigrés est, pour la plus grande partie, à la charge du Gouvernement Hellénique et des communes du royaume qui furent autorisées à s'imposer des taxes extraordinaires en vue de subvenir aux besoins les plus pressants de ceux transportés sur leur territoire; mais toutes ces ressources, y compris le produit des souscriptions des particuliers, sont impuissantes à soulager tant de misères.

A Syra, Nauplie, Patras, et Argos, et dans quelques autres localités de la Grèce, ces malheureux, révoltés par leur triste condition, ont manifesté, en mainte occasion, le désir de rentrer dans leurs foyers; mais les autorités Helléniques et les Agents des Comités ont toujours trouvé moyen de les retenir, tantôt par des promesses mensongères, tantôt par un système d'intimidations propre à faire son effet.

D'après les informations qui me parviennent de toutes parts, le repatriement des émigrés présente, pour le moment, d'insurmontables difficultés, à cause de la surveillance et des procédés dont ils sont l'objet. Mais j'ai tout lieu de croire que le jour n'est pas loin où cette œuvre pourra se réaliser avec plus de succès.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) PH. PHOTIADES.

No. 30.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 9, 1868.

I TRANSMIT, for your information, the accompanying copies of a despatch and its inclosure from Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha,* respecting the desire manifested by Cretans who have removed to Greece to return to Crete, and steps taken by Greek Agents to prevent their doing so.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

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* No. 29.

No. 31.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 11, 1868.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 29, 1867.

A LETTER from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Syra, of which an extract was forwarded to your Lordship by Mr. Erskine in his despatch of December 25, gives an account he received there from Crete of an engagement at Zurba between the Turks and Cretans, in which the former had to retreat, leaving 200 dead and a burst cannon.

The same report having been sent to me here, I inquired into the version which had reached the Turkish Government, and I find that Aali Pasha's accounts of the same affair is that on the $\frac{1st}{13th}$ December some insurgents having come to Zurba and taken refuge in the village, Raouf and Mehemet Ali Pashas marched against them with five battalions, and dislodged them with a loss of four wounded and one killed, the insurgents suffering a considerable loss.

The Turkish Government affirm that, discouraged by the progress of affairs in Crete under the Grand Vizier, the Greeks have to spread these inventions to keep alive the national enthusiasm.

The account of this affair, as given by Consul Dickson in his despatch of the 16th instant,* of which a copy was forwarded by him to your Lordship, entirely corroborates that of the Turkish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 32.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 11, 1868.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a copy of the Administrative Regulation for the Island of Crete, which has been approved by the Government and sanctioned by the Sultan, for carrying out the Organic Law issued in October last.

The Island is to be placed under a Governor-General and four Governors named by the Sultan, of which latter the half are to be Christian and the other half Mussulman.

The Executive power is to be exclusively in the hands of the Governor-General (Article 7), who is to be assisted by an Administrative Council, which will have the right to discuss all permanent administrative measures (Articles 12, 13, and 14), to make the repartition among the Governments of the direct taxes to be raised (Article 17), to regulate the collections of the indirect taxes decided on by the General Assembly, and to control the general revenue and expenditure (Article 18).

There are also Administrative Councils to each of the Governments.

On the whole, if the Turkish Government consent to put the island under a Christian Governor-General, the present Regulations will place it in a position which may be advantageously compared with that of the Lebanon.

Where they are most open to criticism is, perhaps, in the equality established between the representation of the Mahometans and the Christians in the Administrative Councils, the population of the latter being in the proportion of two to one of the former.

This equality will, however, only exist in the General Administrative Council and in those of mixed districts, while in the entirely Christian districts the Councils will also be exclusively Christian.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Administrative Regulation for the Island of Crete.†

Chapitre I.—*Administration Générale du Gouvernement Général de l'Ile de Crète.*

Article 1. LE Gouvernement Général de l'Ile de Crète est divisé en cinq Gouvernements et en vingt Districts, qui se subdivisent en communes ayant chacune la propre circonscription territoriale.

* See No. 26. † For the "Règlement" in its complete form, see Inclosure in No. 67, page 66.

Art. 2. Les cinq Gouvernements de l'Ile de Crète sont :—*

1. Le Gouvernement de la Canée ;
2. Le Gouvernement de Sfakia ;
3. Le Gouvernement de Rethymo ;
4. Le Gouvernement de Candia ;
5. Le Gouvernement de Lassithe.

Article 3. Le Gouvernement de la Canée comprend les Districts de la Canée, de Kissamos, et de Selinos. Le Gouvernement de Sfakia comprend les Districts de Sfakia, d'Ayi Vassili, et d'Apocorona. Le Gouvernement de Rethymo comprend les Districts de Rethymo, de Mylopotamo, et d'Amaro. Le Gouvernement de Candie comprend les Districts de Temenos, de Malévisé, de Pergotissi, Kenurio, Monéfatsi, Pedià, Rizo. Le Gouvernement de Lassithe comprend les Districts de Lassithe, Mirabello, Sitia, et Yeropétro.

Art. 4. La circonscription territoriale de district est celle qui a existé jusqu'à présent.

Art. 5. L'Administration de l'île est confiée à un Gouverneur-Général nommé par Iradé Impérial. A la tête de chaque Gouvernement se trouve placé un Gouverneur nommé par Iradé Impérial. La moitié des Gouverneurs sera prise parmi les employés Chrétiens et l'autre moitié parmi les employés Musulmans du Gouvernement Impérial. A la tête de chaque District se trouve placé un Sous-Gouverneur, que le Gouvernement Impérial choisira, selon les cas, parmi ses employés Musulmans ou Chrétiens.

Art. 6. Les sièges des Gouverneurs et Sous-Gouverneurs seront determinés par arrêté du Gouverneur-Général asssisté de son Conseil d'Administration. Aucun changement ne pourra être fait sur ce point sans l'avis du Conseil d'Administration du District ou du Gouvernement, approuvé par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouverneur-Général et le Gouverneur-Général lui-même.

Art. 7. Le Gouverneur-Général sera assisté dans son administration par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général, et deux Conseillers, dont l'un sera choisi parmi les employés Chrétiens et l'autre parmi les employés Musulmans du Gouvernement Impérial, et qui seront nommés tous deux par Iradé Impérial.

Le Gouverneur-Général remplira en même temps les fonctions de Gouverneur du Gouvernement de la Canée, et le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général remplira également les fonctions de Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement de la Canée.

Art. 8. Les Gouverneurs seront assistés dans leur administration par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement et un adjoint. Celui-ci sera Chrétien si le Gouverneur est Musulman, il sera Musulman si le Gouverneur est Chrétien, et sa nomination aura lieu en vertu d'un Iradé Impérial.

Les Gouverneurs rempliront en même temps les fonctions de Sous-Gouverneurs du District dans lequel sera situé le siège de leur administration. Et le Conseil d'Administration de Gouvernement remplira en même temps les fonctions de Conseil d'Administration du district où siège le Gouverneur.

Art. 9. Le Sous-Gouverneur sera assisté dans l'exercice de ses fonctions par un Conseil d'Administration de District et un Adjoint. L'Adjoint du Sous-Gouverneur Musulman sera Chrétien, celui du Sous-Gouverneur Chrétien sera Musulman.

Art. 10. L'administration de la commune appartient aux Conseils des Anciens.

Chapitre II.—*Attribution et Mode d'Election du Conseil d'Administration du Gouverneur-Général.*

Art. 11. Le pouvoir exécutif appartient exclusivement au Gouverneur-Général, qui l'exerce conformément aux dispositions des lois et aux instructions qu'il reçoit ; au moyen des Gouverneurs, des Sous-Gouverneurs, et des Conseils des Anciens, des différents Gouvernements, Districts, et Villages de l'Ile de Crète.

Art. 12. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général se compose des deux Conseillers, du Receveur-Général (" Defterdar "), du Contrôleur de la Justice (" Mufettichi Hukkiam "), du Métropolitain, de deux Secrétaires-Généraux (" Mektoubdjis "), et de six membres dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens, respectivement élus par les habitants Musulmans et Chrétiens de l'île, conformément au mode d'élection établi ci-après.

Il est placé sous la présidence du Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 13. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général ne pourra, à quelque titre que ce soit, s'ingérer dans l'exercice du pouvoir judiciaire ou exécutif. Le principe qui, dans la sphère du service administratif, doit règler les attributions respectives du Gouverneur-Général et de son Conseil, c'est que si d'une part, l'action, l'initiative, l'exécution, la correspondance directe avec les autorités inférieures et supérieures, et l'envoi

* The Governor-General will be one of the five.

des ordres, appartient exclusivement au Gouverneur-Général; d'autre part la discussion, la délibération, le jugement en matière administrative, appartiennent au Conseil sus-mentionné. Dès lors dans toute mesure administrative qui ne consisterait pas dans la mise à exécution pure et simple d'une disposition légale ou règlementaire, mais dont l'application exigera au préalable une discussion, une jugement, une appréciation des différents intérêts engagés, le Gouverneur-Général sera tenu de s'en rapporter à l'avis du Conseil sus-mentionné.

Art. 14. Conformément à ce qui vient d'être dit dans l'Article précédent, le Conseil sus-mentionné aura le droit de discuter toutes les mesures administratives prises par le Gouverneur-Général, qui auraient un caractère permanent ou d'une certaine durée. A cet effet aucun règlement ou arrêté du Gouverneur-Général concernant l'organisation de municipalités, d'établissements de correction, de bienfaisance de secours, la création ou la suppression de marchés, de foires, de lieux de sépulture publics, l'acquisition, l'aliénation, l'échange, la concession même temporaire, l'affectation spéciale de terrains ou de propriétés publiques, le mode de rapatriement de personnes expatriées, la fixation de primes ou de récompenses et autres objets de même nature, ne pourra être mis à exécution dans l'île, directement par le Gouverneur-Général, ou indirectement par les Gouverneurs et les Sous-Gouverneurs, à moins d'avoir été préalablement discuté par le Conseil.

Celui-ci pourra introduire dans la mesure proposée par le Gouverneur-Général les modifications qu'il croira convenables. Les arrêtés et règlements ainsi discutés pourront être mis à exécution immédiatement par le Gouverneur-Général, sauf à lui à demander l'autorisation du Gouvernement Impérial dans les cas où cela serait nécessaire.

Si le Gouverneur-General croit bon de mettre à exécution l'arrêté proposé, bien qu'il ait été repoussée par le Conseil, ou sans admettre les modifications introduites, il ne pourra procéder à son application qu'en vertu d'un Décret Impérial. Il pourra même procéder à l'exécution immédiate, sauf ratification du Gouvernement Impérial également par Décret, mais en déclarant l'urgence, et en assumant sur lui toute la responsabilité d'une pareille mesure.

Art. 15. Le Gouverneur-Général et le Conseil d'Administration auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits, et les mêmes devoirs que ceux exposés dans l'Article précédent, en ce qui concerne tous les arrêtés qui obligeraient les habitants de l'île ou une partie d'entre eux à faire un paiement en argent, ou une prestation en nature, ou à renoncer à un droit acquis.

Tels seraient les arrêtés qui imposeraient une augmentation des taxes payées en matière de navigation, ou un péage qui limiteraient le nombre de ceux qui exercent une profession ou un métier, qui ordonneraient la fermeture même provisoire d'une fabrique, d'une usine, ou d'un atelier, pour cause d'insalubrité ou de violation des règlements ou des usages, qui rendraient obligatoire un genre de culture ou de clôture, qui autoriseraient l'établissement des bateaux particuliers ou d'un service de Messageries, qui déclareraient passibles certaines catégories d'actes non-specifiés dans le Code Pénal.

Art. 16. Le Gouverneur-Général et son Conseil auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits et les mêmes devoirs que ceux indiqués dans l'Article 14 qui concerne les marchés, traités, et contrats conclus avec des tiers au nom du Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 17. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouverneur-Général fera la répartition par Gouvernement de tous les impôts directs dont la perception aura été décidée, en vertu d'une loi ou d'une décision exécutoire de l'Assemblée Générale de l'Ile. Il réglera aussi la perception de tous les impôts indirects dont la perception aura été decidée en vertu d'une décision exécutoire de l'Assemblée Générale.

Art. 18. Le susdit Conseil est chargé du contrôle des dépenses et de revenus généraux et particuliers dont la surveillance, en ce qui concerne la comptabilité, appartient d'après la Règlement aux Conseils d'Administration de toute l'île.

Art. 19. Il est également chargé de la surveillance et de la conservation de tous les meubles et immeubles que tout l'Etat possède dans l'île et qui soient directement administrés par le trésor Impérial.

Art. 20. Le même Conseil présentera à l'Assemblée Générale le compte des dépenses de l'exercice écoulé pour tout ce qui est du ressort de l'administration locale. Il présentera également à cette même Assemblée le budget de l'année suivante comprenant l'exposé motivé de toutes les mesures qu'il jugera nécessaires et utiles.

Art. 21. Il appartiendra au susdit Conseil de prononcer en dernier ressort :—

(1.) Sur toutes les difficultés qui pourront surgir en matière d'élection des Anciens des villages, des Démogéronties des Gouvernements, des Membres des Tribunaux Mixtes de divers ordres, des Membres des Tribunaux de Commerce, des Membres des Conseils d'Administration des Districts et des Gouvernements.

(2.) Sur toutes les difficultés qui pourront surgir entre les Gouverneurs, leurs Conseils d'Administration, les Sous-Gouverneurs, leurs Conseils d'Administration, les Conseils des Anciens, et en général sur tous les conflits des divers Administrations entre elles.

(3.) Sur toutes les difficultés et réclamations auxquelles peuvent donner lieu des délimitations des circonscriptions territoriales des différentes autorités judiciaires et administratives, ainsi que sur les demandes en modifications des dites circonscriptions.

4. Sur tous les conflits judiciaires dans les cas spécifiés par le Réglement Judiciaire.

5. Sur toutes les difficultés qui s'élèvent en matière de perception d'impôts directs, tel que dîme, &c.

Art. 22. Le susdit Conseil autorisera en outre toutes poursuites pénales contre les employés qui n'auront pas été nommés par Iradé Impériale pour tous faits commis par eux dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions. Une fois l'autorisation accordée, les poursuites auront lieu par devant les Tribunaux ordinaires, qui prononceront conformément aux dispositions de la loi.

Le Gouverneur-Général ne pourra point empêcher le cours des poursuites autorisées par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général. Il pourra néanmoins faire suspendre de ses fonctions un fonctionnaire de ceux dont il a été parlé ci-dessus, et autoriser des poursuites contre lui par devant les Tribunaux ordinaires, même dans le cas où le Conseil déciderait qu'il n'y a pas lieu de poursuivre.

Si la poursuite intentée contre l'employé ne consiste qu'en une demande de dommages-intérêts, le Conseil, quel que soit le rang de l'employé, pourra statuer sur les dommages-intérêts, s'il n'aime mieux renvoyer la demande devant les Tribunaux ordinaires.

Art. 23. Le susdit Conseil est spécialement chargé de recueillir toutes les données concernant la statistique de l'île.

Art. 24. Il a le droit, à condition d'en user avec une reserve extrême, de faire au Gouverneur-Général des remontrances dans le cas où, dans ses relations avec le Conseil, il s'écarterait des règles préscrites par les lois et par le présent Réglement.

Art. 25. Le susdit Conseil sera tenu de donner son avis sur toutes les questions qui lui seront soumises par le Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 26. Il recevra toutes les pétitions qui lui seront adressées directement. Si l'objet de la pétition est de ceux qui rentrent dans ses attributions, il ne pourra y donner suite sans en avoir prévenu le Gouverneur-Général ; dans le cas contraire, il rejettera la pétition présentée. Néanmoins, il pourra, dans le cas où il le jugerait nécessaire, recommander la pétition ainsi rejettée à l'attention du Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 27. Les décisions du Conseil seront prises à la pluralité des voix. La minorité aura le droit de faire insérer son avis à la suite des procès-verbal, ou d'en faire une rédaction à part. En cas de partage, la voix du Président comptera double.

Art. 28. Aucune séance du susdit Conseil, aucune décision en matière de contentieux administratives et autres, ne sera régulière si la moitié au moins de Membres ne s'y trouvent présent.

Art. 29. Conformément au nouveau Réglement de l'Ile de Crète le travail des bureaux devant avoir lieu dans les deux langues, les procès-verbeaux du Conseil seront tenus en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 30. Les Membres électifs du Conseil d'Administration du Gouverneur-Général seront désignés par l'Assemblée Générale annuelle ; les Membres Musulmans et les Membres Chrétiens de la susdite Assemblée votant ensemble. Il seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des Membres des Tribunaux Mixtes. La durée de leur fonctions sera de trois ans.

Art. 31. A la fin de la première année l'Assemblée Générale procédera, ainsi qu'il a été dit plus haut, à l'élection d'un Membre Musulman et d'un Membre Chrétien, qui devront remplacer le Membre Musulman et le Membre Chrétien sortants. Ceux-ci seront tirés au sort ; il en sera de même à la fin de la seconde année pour l'élection des deux Conseillers qui devront remplacer les deux sortants parmi les quatre restant de la première élection. Après la seconde élection il n'y aura plus lieu d'avoir recours au tirage au sort.

Art. 32. L'Assemblée Générale en choissisant un Conseiller, ainsi qu'il vient d'être dit, désignera aussi un suppléant, qui sera appelé à remplacer dans le Conseil le Membre élu dans le cas où celui-ci, pour une cause quelconque, se trouvait dans l'impossibilité d'y siéger.

Art. 33. Les Membres du Conseil du Gouverneur-Général recevront une rétribution fixée à piastres par an.

Chapitre III.—*Attributions et Mode d'Election des Conseils d'Administration de Gouvernement et des Districts.*

Art. 34. Les Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements Mixtes seront composés

de l'Adjoint, du Juge (Hakim), de l'Evêque, du Receveur particulier (Mouhassebedji), des deux Sécrétaires en chef, et de six Membres électifs, dont les trois seront Musulmans et les trois autres Chrétiens. Dans les Gouvernements dont la population est en totalité Chrétienne, les susdits Conseils seront composés de l'Adjoint, de l'Evêque, du Receveur particulier, du Sécrétaire en chef, et de six Membres électifs Chrétiens. Le mode d'élection de ces Membres sera déterminée ci-après. Dans tous les cas les Conseils se trouveront sous la présidence des Gouverneurs respectifs.

Art. 35. Les Conseils d'Administration des Districts Mixtes seront composés de l'Adjoint, du Percepteur (Mal Mudiri), et de six Membres dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens élus par les habitants du district, ainsi qu'il sera déterminé ci-après. Dans les districts dont la population est exclusivement Chrétienne ou Musulmane, les Membres électifs seront tous les six Chrétiens ou Musulmans. Dans tous les cas les susdits Conseils sont placés sous la présidence de leurs Sous-Gouverneurs respectifs.

Art. 36. De même que les Gouverneurs et Sous-Gouverneurs se trouvent être les représentants du pouvoir exécutif qui réside dans le Gouverneur-Général, de même aussi les Conseils d'Administration qui se trouvent placés auprès d'eux sont considérés comme les représentants du pouvoir consultatif et délibératif, résidant dans le Conseil d'Administration placé auprès du Gouvernement Général, et sont autorisés à discuter toutes les mesures administratives des Gouverneurs et des Sous-Gouverneurs qui ne consistent pas dans une mise à exécution pure et simple.

Art. 37. En conséquence, est et demeure interdite aux susdits Conseils toute ingérance dans le pouvoir judiciaire et dans le pouvoir exécutif, soit que dans ce dernier cas il s'agisse d'une mesure prise par le Gouverneur-Général seul, ou soit qu'il s'agisse d'une mesure prise par le Gouverneur-Général assisté de son Conseil d'Administration, pourvu que dans tous les cas il ne soit question que d'une simple mesure d'exécution.

Art. 38. Par contre dans tous les cas où il ne s'agira pas de la part du Gouverneur d'un simple acte d'exécution, soit que cet acte émane directement du Gouverneur soit qu'il en ait reçu, le Gouvernement et le Conseil auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits, les mêmes devoirs que ceux prescrits dans les Articles 13 à 20 et 23 à 27 ci-dessus. Les Sous-Gouverneurs et leurs Conseils se trouveront dans leurs relations entre eux, ainsi que dans leurs relations avec les Gouverneurs et leurs Conseils, dans une situation absolument identique à celle dans laquelle sont placés ces derniers vis-à-vis des autorités de la Canée.

Art. 39. Le pouvoir exécutif, ainsi que le droit d'initiative, résidant dans les Gouverneurs et les Sous-Gouverneurs, leurs Conseils ne seront pas responsables des avis émis par eux dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions consultatives.

Art. 40. Les règles concernant les devoirs des Gouverneurs, des Receveurs particuliers, des Sous-Gouverneurs, des Percepteurs et de leurs Conseils d'Administration en matière de comptabilité, sont établies dans la loi financière des Gouvernements Généraux.

Art. 41. Les dispositions des Articles 27, 28, 29 ci-dessus sont également applicables aux Conseils de Gouvernements et de Districts.

Art. 42. Les Membres des Conseils d'Administration des Districts seront élus par le Conseil des Anciens des Cantons, respectivement les Musulmans par les Musulmans et les Chrétiens par les Chrétiens. Leurs fonctions sont annuelles. Ils seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des membres des Tribunaux Mixtes. Ils ne recevront aucune rétribution.

Art. 43. Les membres des Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements seront élus par les Conseils d'Administration et les Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts compris dans le Gouvernement. Les membres Musulmans des Conseils d'Administration des Districts et des Tribunaux Mixtes du Gouvernement éliront les membres Musulmans des Conseils d'Administration du Gouvernement; les membres Chrétiens des Conseils d'Administration des Districts, et des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts compris dans les Gouvernements, éliront les membres Chrétiens des Conseils d'Administration de Gouvernement. La durée de fonction des membres des Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements sera de deux ans. Ils seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des membres des Tribunaux Mixtes.

Ils recevront une rétribution annuelle fixée à piastres.

Art. 44. Une loi spéciale réglera l'administration de la commune. L'Assemblée Générale est invitée à présenter à l'approbation du Gouvernement Impérial un projet de loi sur l'organisation communale. Jusqu'à ce qu'une loi soit établie sur ce point important, les villages seront administrés par les Conseils des Anciens comme par le passé.

No. 33.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 11, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th ultimo, inclosing the regulations prepared by the Porte for the future Government of Crete.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government, and you may say so confidentially to Fuad Pasha that a declaration on the part of the Porte of the Sultan's intention to name a Christian to be Governor-General of the island, might have a beneficial effect, which effect would probably be enhanced by the nomination to that office at an early date, of a person whose known ability and general character might be held to be a guarantee that the Government would henceforth be well administered.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 34.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 11.)

My Lord, *Athens, January* 1, 1868.

A RUSSIAN corvette has, within the last few days, landed a fresh cargo of Cretan refugees at the Piræus. It appears that, on this occasion, she called at Canea to acquaint the Russian Consul-General with her intention of proceeding to Armyro for the purpose of shipping families, but that she did not, as had hitherto been the practice, communicate with the Turkish Admiral at Suda Bay. The consequence was that as soon as the corvette anchored at Armyro and commenced taking families on board, the Turkish flag-ship hove in sight and the Admiral sent on board the corvette to request that the Russian Commander would call upon him ; and upon the latter doing so, the Admiral complained of his having ventured to approach a blockaded coast without apprizing the Turkish Naval authorities of what he was about to do. Commander Zélénoy excused himself by saying that he had called at Canea to acquaint the Russian Consul-General with his intention, and that he was entitled to assume that the Turkish authorities were aware of his object. but the Turkish Admiral was not satisfied with this explanation and called upon M. Zélénoy to discontinue shipping any more Cretan families and withdraw. M. Zélénoy having, as he alleges, taken on board as many refugees as he could conveniently accommodate, readily complied with the injunctions of Bessim Pasha, and left Armyro for the Piræus, having first called at Suda Bay to report to his Consul-General what had occurred.

Aali Pasha, as I am informed, upon being spoken to on the subject, replied that the Porte had no wish to interfere with the understanding which had been come to in regard to the removal of families from Crete by the vessels of war of the different European Powers, but he said the Admiral had deemed it his duty to recall the Commander of the Russian corvette to a sense of what was due to the Ottoman authorities under the peculiar circumstances of the case.

Mr. Consul Lloyd has reported to me that the "Enosis" has recently made a fresh trip to Crete with arms and provisions for the insurgents. She fell in with two Turkish cruizers off Tripiti, one of which was a steamer with four funnels; but they did not apparently observe the "Enosis," as she was not molested whilst landing her cargo, and she got to sea in safety. The "Enosis" again left Syra for Crete on the 28th ultimo.

The reported arrival in Crete of Captain Hobart, of the Royal Navy, had created some sensation at Syra, as it was supposed that he would assist the Turkish Navy in rendering the blockade more stringent than it has hitherto been ; but the Greeks console themselves with the reflection that, however great the activity and intelligence of this officer, he cannot manage to be in more places than one at the same time.

The last accounts which have reached me from Mr. Consul Dickson were dated the 23rd ultimo, but I have received much later intelligence through Mr. Stillman, the American Consul at Canea, who is now here and who left that place on the 28th ultimo. He states that it is not true that the insurgents have been driven out of their strong position at Zurba, as reported by Mr Dickson. The Turks did, he admits, momentarily occupy the first line of houses in the village, but they were eventually compelled to fall back upon Lakos with heavy loss. Mr. Stillman affirms that the insurgents are still in arms in considerable force in all parts of the island, and that the Turkish troops were never in a worse plight than they now are, or so far from definitively quelling the insurrection. This gentleman is, as your Lordship

is aware, a warm partizan of the rebel cause; but I feel satisfied not only that the Turks were repulsed in their attack upon Zurba, but that the Cretans still in arms are determined to hold out, however great may be their privations, until the Great Powers can be induced to come forward and to guarantee the concessions to be made by the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

P.S.—*January* 2, 1868. Since this despatch was written, Mr. Consul Lloyd has reported to me the return to Syra of the "Enosis," after successfully landing her cargo on the south coast of Crete, and without having fallen in with any Turkish cruizer. She was to start again the night before last.

E. M. E.

No. 35.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 24.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, December* 30, 1867.

THE Grand Vizier returned from Candia on the 27th instant, in the iron-clad frigate "Osmanieh;" his Highness having left Hussein Avni Pasha in temporary charge of the government of that province.

In consequence of the late tempestuous weather, many of the ships that were at sea were obliged to seek shelter in Suda Bay. Amongst these was the "Vitiaz," Russian corvette, with some 500 Cretan refugees on board, taken at Armyro. The "Vitiaz" has since left for the Piræus.

The Ottoman steam-ship "Pursout" has arrived from Prevesa and Zante, with 700 troops.

It appears to be true that a band of about 500 insurgents made an attack upon Sawas Pasha as he was proceeding, last Monday, to Armenos. The insurgents were first seen on a hill near Proverma, whence they descended into an olive grove and fired a few musket-shots, killing one Turkish soldier and wounding two others. Two companies of skirmishers having been thrown out from the main body of troops (consisting altogether of four battalions) that were escorting Sawas Pasha, the insurgents soon after disappeared. Sawas Pasha, who has been here to meet the Grand Vizier, left again to-day for Vamos, accompanied by some Zaptiehs, the road being no longer considered dangerous.

Amongst the passengers recently arrived here by the "Talia" was Captain Hobart, on a short visit. This gentleman, I understand, proceeds to Constantinople or Syra to-morrow or the day after.

I haxe, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 36.

Lord Stanley to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Foreign Office, January* 14, 1868.

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople,* authorizing him to make a confidential communication to the Porte on the subject of the appointment of a Christian to be Governor-General of Crete; and I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate to the Marquis de Moustier the substance of these instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

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* No. 33.

No. 37.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 17.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, January* 4, 1868.

LETTERS were received at the Porte two days ago from Aali Pasha, complaining greatly of the proceedings of the Russians in Crete, which he describes as being contrary to all international law.

I am unable to say to what extent his Highness may be in a position to establish the above charges, but I have endeavoured to ascertain the true state of the case through a person well qualified to form an opinion, who has recently been on the spot.

He assures me that both by the Turkish authorities in the island and by the insurgents themselves the countenance given by the Russians to the cause of the latter is regarded as open and undisguised. He believes their proceedings to be susceptible of no other explanation, and is convinced that they alone have hitherto prevented the pacification being accomplished.

No. 38.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 17.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 5, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith copies of a letter which appeared in the "Levant Herald" of yesterday upon the position of things in Crete, and which I have ascertained to be a *bonâ fide* communication from an eye-witness thoroughly competent to form an opinion, and therefore well-deserving of attention.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Extract from the "Levant Herald" of January 4, 1868.

CRETE.—An English traveller who has visited Crete "to see (as he tells us) with his own eyes, and hear with his own ears, the truth as to the state of things in the island," sends us the following sketch of what he believes to be the situation. His impressions, it will be seen, differ from those of previous correspondents, but from the position and character of the writer their good faith, at least, is beyond question. Still, we publish the letter without in any way necessarily endorsing the statements or opinions it contains:—

"*Canea, January* 1, 1868.

"Your readers and the public generally must have so much difficulty in obtaining reliable information from this part of the world, that perhaps you may like to publish the following items picked up with some care on the spot.

"In the Island of Crete there are four parties; the first I will refer to is that which is by far the most troublesome to the Turkish Government, namely, the party which insists on annexation with Greece at any price. This party, though not very numerous, is active, to a certain extent brave, and entirely unscrupulous. Its members live in the mountains, and have established a system of guerilla warfare; they prevent by threats and ill-usage the peaceably-disposed from giving their adhesion to the Government; they encourage blockade-running, and they harass the Turkish army, who can never meet them in open fight. There are seldom more than 50 or 100 men of these together; and this party is wholly buoyed up with hopes from Russia and Greece. Without the promise of aid from the former, and the all but open hostility of the latter, the Cretan insurrection would soon be stamped out. A second party consists of a considerable body of Cretans who, with great justice, demand concessions from the Government, concessions which I am convinced would be granted (in fact, they have already been offered), if the tranquillity of the island could be secured by such a step being taken; but this party again is much under the control of the first one. A third section consists of people who are loyal to the Government, who constantly apply for military protection; but these unfortunate people are, as it were, between two stools. When the troops are with them they devour their means of subsistence, and when they are absent the insurgents ill-use them for having shown

sympathy with the troops. A fourth party consists of the inhabitants of the sea-port and the extreme east of the island (mostly Mussulmans), who are contented and quiet. It is difficult to ascertain the exact number of armed insurgents, but to say 4,000 or 5,000 would, I believe, be near the mark.

"And now as to the policy pursued by the Grand Vizier (who is here in person) to put a stop to this ruinous revolution. He continues up to the present moment to pursue a system of conciliation. Many persons are allowed to come in from the disturbed districts and to return to the mountains with provisions and money. A shot is rarely heard throughout the whole length and breadth of the island. Block-houses are being constructed, between which communications will be established by a memorable field force; these blockhouses nearly surround the disaffected districts. Deputations are constantly arriving from the country with offers of submission if protection be granted. Two new Governors (Christians) have already commenced their functions in what are supposed to be disturbed districts and report favourably; in fact, as between Turkey and her rebellious subjects, all seems progressing favourably. Turkey is ready and willing to yield most of the points asked from her, and all might go well, but—pressure from without makes it an impossibility to put down the revolution so long as that pressure lasts. While Russian ships of war, in defiance of all law and justice, weekly bring provisions, arms, clothing, and—worse than all these—encouragement and promise of assistance, the revolution will never be put down; while Russian ships of war embark and disembark the chiefs of the rebels under salutes from the guns of their ships, and pass in and out through the blockade during the night without showing lights, while these things are allowed to go on, so long Crete will be in revolt, and a precedent be established in regard to foreign interference in the event of revolution that may come home to the very door of more than one of the Great Powers. With Greece, Turkey could deal single-handed easily enough, and surely it would be better for Turkey to be at open war than in her present state. The 'exhaustive' policy of her great enemy is beyond all doubt doing most ruinous work. Aali Pasha feels all this bitterly, and has, I am told, at last protested strongly against these proceedings. The Turkish fleet is in fair condition, but has harassing work in attending to the wants of the troops, who are now distributed about the coast. The four ironclads are very fine ships, but the crews want drilling and discipline. The blockade is on a small scale, the ships being wanted for other work; besides which the Turks say that all that the insurgents require is being taken in by the Russians. The French, Austrian, English, Prussian, and Italian men-of-war now entirely desist from interference.

"P.S.—It would be well to ask some competent authority if armed merchant steamers running the blockade in Crete or elsewhere, with the avowed intention of resisting the cruizers, are not to all intents and purposes piratical vessels? This is what the Greeks do in Crete. What would the Americans say to this? The fact of an armed vessel lying in any port unquestioned (if she be not a man-of-war) is unusual. This is what the Greek blockade-runners do in the Piræus and at Syra."

No. 39.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 17.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 7, 1868.

THE circumstances alluded to by Mr. Erskine, in his despatch of the 1st instant, respecting the Russian corvette in Armyro Bay, seem likely to give rise to some discussion, and I have the honour to inclose the versions of the occurrence published by the "Turquie" and the "Levant Herald" newspapers, as well as the copy of an account of it which has been given me by an eye-witness.

The statement that a man-of-war had passed without lights through a line of blockade is certainly one which should not be received without extreme caution; but the fact of the corvette having, as her captain asserted, already embarked as many refugees as she could carry when the Turkish ship entered the bay in the morning, was certainly calculated to produce a perhaps erroneous impression that she had been taken in during the night, and with a view to escape observation.

What is stated in the "Turquie" with regard to the salute of the corvette not being returned by the Turkish flag-ship, I have ascertained to be correct. On entering the bay, and seeing an unauthorised vessel communicating with the insurgents on shore, the Admiral had ordered his guns to be loaded with shell, and on that pretext informed the captain of the corvette that he could not return the salute, which, however, was subse-

quently done by another Turkish vessel in another port; and all misunderstanding on that ground may, it is hoped, be thus avoided.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

Extract from "La Turquie" of January 7, 1868.

Canée, le 31 *Décembre,* 1867.

UN fait très grave a eu lieu à Armyro qui pourrait bien avoir pour résultat d'édifier l'opinion publique sur la véritable signification de ces fameux transports de familles Crétoises, inaugurés par l'Amiral Simon, et poursuivis par la Russie seule, depuis quelque temps. Dans la matinée du 24 Décembre, l'Amiral Vessim Pacha se rendait à Candie avec la frégate cuirassée "l'Osmanié," quand il aperçut, vers 8 heures du matin, une corvette Russe ancrée à Armyro, et occupée dans un va-et-vient de ses chaloupes du navire à la plage. L'Amiral fit mettre le cap sur la corvette, et aussitôt on vit un grand nombre de chevaux, chargés de sacs remplis, se diriger rapidement vers la montagne. Comme l'Amiral n'avait reçu les jours précédents aucune demande en autorisation d'embarquement de familles, il se trouvait évidemment en présence d'un cas de violation flagrante du blocus. Il fit donc charger ses canons Armstrong à toute éventualité, et envoya un officier à bord de la corvette Russe pour inviter le Commandant Zelonoï à se rendre à bord de "l'Osmanié."

La corvette salua le pavillon Ottoman de dix-neuf coups de canon, qui ne purent être rendus, les pièces de "l'Osmanié" étant chargées, comme je l'ai dit plus haut, à boulet. Monté à bord de la frégate Amirale, le Commandant Russe se justifia tant bien que mal; tout en convenant de l'irrégularité de sa situation et des dangers auxquels il s'était exposé, dont le moindre était d'être capturé, il rejette sur son Consul toute la responsabilité de ses actes. Il s'était adressé au Consul pour obtenir par son intermédiaire l'autorisation d'embarquer des familles, et celui-ci lui avait donné l'ordre de procéder à sa mission après quelques heures d'attente, disant "qu'il n'était plus besoin de permission." Le Commandant Russe offrit de suspendre sur-le-champ ses opérations d'embarquement et de débarquement, et d'attendre de nouveaux ordres à la Suda; ce à quoi l'Amiral consentit.

Un officier de la Marine Royale Britannique, témoin oculaire, de qui je tiens ces détails, a exprimé devant moi l'opinion que, selon toute évidence, la corvette Russe avait dû voyager une partie de la nuit en dedans de la ligne du blocus pour se trouver à 8 heures du matin en pleine opération de déchargement sur la plage d'Armyro. D'après lui, la corvette pouvait être coulée bas, et il m'a cité plusieurs exemples de la guerre civile d'Amérique, où la loi internationale, régissant la matière, avait été rigoureusement exécutée.

Je regrette, quant à moi, qu'une pareille mesure, en tant que légale, n'ait pas été appliquée à la corvette Russe.

Quelle occasion perdue de faire un acte d'énergie en faveur de la justice et du droit! Si au moins on avait armé en guerre quelques chaloupes, et jeté un corps de débarquement sur la plage pour vérifier le contenu de ces fameux sacs! Vérification inutile, il est vrai; car, comment expliquer, sinon par un ravitaillement de l'insurrection, la conduite de la corvette Russe? A quoi bon se passer d'une permission qui n'est jamais refusée? Pourquoi s'affranchir de l'escorte d'un navire Ottoman? Pourquoi s'exposer aux dangers d'une navigation de nuit à proximité immédiate des côtes, alors qu'il est si facile d'embarquer des familles au grand jour? Pourquoi? sinon pour débarquer les sacs qui ont pris la route de la montagne à l'approche de la frégate cuirassée Ottomane? Il me semble que le résultat à atteindre, en vérifiant le contenu de ses sacs, était d'une importance telle qu'il eût fallu, au tout prix, au risque même de perdre "l'Osmanié" et de faire tuer mille hommes, tenter cette vérification.

Quoi qu'il en soit, le doute n'est pas permis, et ainsi se trouvent confirmées les appréciations auxquelles je me suis livré dernièrement sur la véritable portée du transport des familles.

Espérons que le Gouvernement Impérial, fort de ce précédent indéniable et indénié, trouvera des raisons péremptoires pour se refuser dorénavant à l'entrée des navires étrangers dans les eaux de la Crète, et que les Cabinets de l'Europe Occidentale se feront un devoir, dans l'intérêt de l'ordre public et de la conservation des Traités, d'appuyer la nouvelle attitude imposée à la Sublime Porte par l'incident d'Armyro.

A ce propos des Cabinets de l'Europe, il me paraît utile d'exprimer ici la conviction dans laquelle je n'ai fait que m'engager davantage depuis mon séjour en Crète, qu'il dépend

absolument de la France et de l'Angleterre de finir la question Crétoise et d'entraver la politique de fer et de feu de M. Coumoundouros. Pour cela, il suffirait que la France et l'Angleterre déclarassent nettement aux bandes qu'elles n'ont rien à attendre de leurs sympathies, et, au Cabinet Grec, qu'il ait à mettre de l'eau sur son feu, sous peine d'attirer à la Grèce la répétition des mesures prises à son égard en 1854.

Tant que les deux Cabinets précités n'auront pas pris une décision dans le sens que je viens d'indiquer, ils pourront être soupçonnés à bon droit de connivence avec l'insurrection, et ils n'auront rien à répondre quand on leur reprochera de traîner leur politique à la remorque de la Russie.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

Extract from the "Levant Herald" of January 7, 1868.

A PRIVATE letter from Canea, dated Christmas-day, says:—"An incident has just occurred in connection with the deportation of the insurgent families by the Russian men-of-war, which you may perhaps think worth report. Yesterday morning, Admiral Vessim Pasha was proceeding to Candia in the 'Osmanié,' when off Armiro, about an hour's steam down the coast, he saw the Russian corvette 'Vitiaz' close in-shore, preparing to embark a number of people collected on the beach. As Armiro is not one of the points at which the Porte permits these embarkations to take place, the Admiral ran in and sent a boat to the Russian, requesting her commander to come on board. This the latter did; and in reply to Vessim's complaint of his being improperly in communication with the shore, he said that he had waited nine hours at Canea to give the usual notification, but as the Admiral was not there, his (the Russian) Consul had directed him to proceed without further stoppage. The Admiral thereupon requested him to clear off, and this the corvette at once did, proceeding round to Suda Bay, where his salute to the 'Osmanié'—which Vessim had not returned, on the pretence that his guns were all Armstrongs, and were at the time loaded with shell—was returned by another vessel, by order of the Grand Vizier." In connection with this incident, we may mention the credited rumour that the Porte has decided on positively refusing permission, in other words, preventing these shipments of the insurgent families at any but the four points already selected for that purpose.

Inclosure 3 in No. 39.

Letter from Crete by an Eye-Witness.

THE following is an account of an eye-witness of an affair which happened in Crete lately, between a Turkish man-of-war carrying the flag of Admiral Vessim Pasha, and a Russian corvette:—

The account given by the Russian Commander regarding his proceedings previous to meeting with the Turkish cruizers is as follows:—He states, that he arrived off Canea on the morning of the 23rd; that he immediately applied through his Consul for permission to proceed to Armiro and embark families. The captain says, that after having waited for nine hours, and no permission being sent to him, the Consul desired him to proceed on his mission, which he did after dark on the evening of his arrival.

On the following morning the Turkish Admiral, who was cruizing in his flag-ship, was surprised at seeing a Russian vessel of war lying at anchor off Armiro, whose boats were actively passing backwards and forwards to the shore, on which were crowds of people and several horses already laden with sacks. The Admiral sent for the captain of the Russian ship, and asked him to explain his conduct in thus having passed through the blockade, and communicating with the shore, without having obtained the usual permission, or being accompanied by a Turkish vessel of war. The Admiral requested him immediately to to go away. The Russian captain, in reply, admitted that he was in the wrong, but said that he was acting under the orders of his Consul; however, that as the Admiral wished it, he would at once leave Armiro, which he did immediately, leaving many disappointed people on the shore, who dispersed after the Russian vessel had gone. They must have been much surprised at her sudden departure. This vessel must necessarily have passed through the Turkish line of blockade several times during the night. Her commander should certainly have waited at all events for an answer, even were it a refusal of the permission he craved, as many reasons may have caused a temporary delay to have been expedient; and as the entire absence of active warlike measures on the part of the Turkish

authorities rendered great haste on the part of the Russian vessel unimportant, his acting as he did was a breach of established rule even in this curious war, and a slight of no ordinary nature to the Turkish flag. It is reported, that previous to the arrival of the Turkish Admiral, the Russian corvette had saluted with five guns an insurgent Chief, who had embarked on board of her for a passage to Athens.

No. 40.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 17.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January 7, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith a Declaration by the Grand Vizier to the Cretan delegates of some measures of conciliation which I had already informed your Lordship it was the Sultan's intention to grant.

From the 1st of next March the island will be entirely excused from the payment of tithes for two years, and for the two following years will only be liable to the half of that tax, the proceeds of which are to be devoted to objects of public utility in the manner considered most desirable by the General Assembly of the island.

The tax for redemption from military service hitherto levied upon the Christians is likewise removed as long as the Mussulman inhabitants continue free from forced military service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Declaration made by Aali Pasha, and communicated to the Assembly of Delegates of the Island of Crete, at the beginning of the Session, on the 31st December, 1867.

Messieurs les Délégués,

SA Majesté le Sultan notre très auguste et très magnanime Souverain, dans sa sollicitude incessante pour le bonheur et le bien-être de tous ses sujets, a daigné prendre en considération toute particulière la situation à laquelle l'Ile de Crète se trouve réduite par suite d'excitations coupables et d'intrigues étrangères.

Désirant, en conséquence, contribuer autant qu'il dépend d'elle à réparer les malheurs dont l'île a été frappée et à fournir à la population les moyens de revenir le plus tôt possible à son ancienne prospérité, Sa Majesté m'a autorisé à déclarer:—

1. Qu'à partir du 1 Mars de l'année prochaine 1868 et pour la durée de deux années consécutives, il est fait grâce à tous les habitants de l'île de la dîme de tous les produits soumis à cet impôt;

2. Qu'à l'expiration des deux années sus-indiquées de complète exemption de la dîme, il sera perçu à partir du 1 Mars, 1870, également pendant la durée de deux ans en lieu et place de la dîme, une moitié de dîme, soit 5 pour cent: le produit de cette moitié de dîme doit être affecté aux travaux d'utilité publique que l'Assemblée Générale de l'île indiquera, de la manière qu'elle croira le plus convenable.

En outre, Sa Majesté Impériale, désirant mettre tous les habitants de l'île sur un pied de complète égalité:

Considérant que la contribution pour le rachat du service militaire était perçue jusqu'à présent des seuls habitants Chrétiens de l'île, pendant que les habitants Musulmans étaient exemptés et du service et de la contribution; et que cette contribution ainsi perçu constituait une cause d'inégalité entre deux classes de sujets qui ont les mêmes droits à la bienveillance Impériale;

M'a ordonné de déclarer que la contribution pour le rachat du service militaire est abolie pour l'Ile de Crète, et que les habitants Chrétiens de l'île seront exempts de toute contribution de ce genre aussi longtemps que la population Musulmane de l'île sera exempte du service militaire.

Telles sont, Messieurs les Délégués, les nouvelles faveurs que Sa Majesté Impériale accorde à la population de l'île. Leur importance et leur valeur n'échapperont à aucun Crétois, j'en suis certain.

Hâtez-vous donc d'en porter l'heureuse nouvelle à la connaissance de tous vos compatriotes; et pénétrés de reconnaissance, redoublez d'efforts, afin que par la consolidation de l'ordre et de la tranquillité publique vous répondiez dignement aux sentiments de justice et de bienveillanee de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan.

No. 41.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 17.)

My Lord, *Athens, January* 6, 1868.

TWO Greek gentlemen called this morning at my house with a petition addressed to Her Majesty the Queen, requesting pecuniary aid for the Cretan refugees in this country, which they were desirous I should forward to Her Majesty's Government; but as this document is drawn up in terms offensive to the Turkish Government, and it is doubtless by this step intended to excite sympathy abroad in favour of the cause of the insurgents, I have declined to forward it to your Lordship.

I herewith inclose copy of this petition, and also of the answer I returned to M. Antoniades, one of the gentlemen who signed it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

Petition of Cretan Refugees Committee.

Majesté,

SEIZE mois se sont déjà écoulés depuis le commencement des troubles dont l'Ile de Crète continue à être le triste et sanglant théâtre. Les familles Chrétiennes connaissant, toutes par tradition et beaucoup d'entr'elles par expérience, la férocité et le fanatisme des Musulmans, ont cherché dans l'émigration en Grèce la sauvegarde de leur honneur et de leur existence.

Le nombre de ces infortunés, augmentant tous les jours par le prolongation de la lutte, s'élève actuellement à 60,000 femmes, enfants et vieillards, et Dieu sait où s'arrêtera le flot qui pousse vers la Grèce la partie faible de la population Crétoise, obligée à y chercher refuge non seulement par la terreur que lui inspirent ses conquérants, mais aussi par la privation de tout moyen d'existence à la suite de l'incendie de leurs maisons et de l'épuisement ou la destruction de toutes les denrées de première nécessité.

Ces malheureuses créatures se trainant de montagne en montagne pourchassées par les Turcs sont reduits au dernier degré de misère et de nudité avant de pouvoir s'embarquer, et arrivent ici excitant la compassion.

Les secours des Comités Philanthropiques, qui à la voix de l'humanité en détresse se sont spontanément institués presque dans toutes les parties du monde, unis aux secours fournis par le trésor public de la Grèce, ont subvenu et subviennent à la nourriture et au logement de ces malheureuses victimes.

Mais, à l'entrée de l'hiver, qui s'annonce plutôt rigoureux, un autre besoin se présente, besoin très pressant, celui de procurer des vêtements chauds et des couvertures à ces milliers d'êtres affaiblis par les fatigues et par le malheur.

Vivement préoccupés du manque de ces objets d'une impérieuse nécessité et privés des moyens d'y rémédier promptement et avec efficacité, les très humbles Soussignés, chargés du soin des réfugiés Crétois, sachant que la première vertu des Souverains est la philanthropie et la commisération pour des maux non mérités, et pensant qu'après avoir sauvé par leurs flottes du déshonneur et de la mort une population entière, ils ne voudront pas l'abandonner, supplient votre Majesté de daigner venir en aide à ces infortunés, jusqu'à à ce qu'il plaise à la Divine Providence de mettre un terme à des maux inouis, dont l'histoire du monde, heureusement pour l'humanité, n'offre que peu d'exemples.

De votre Majesté,
Les très humbles et très obéissants serviteurs,
Membres du Comité,
(Signé) S. ANTONIADES.
E. TOMBAZIO.
ANT. MARIOLAKIS.
JEAN G. PAPADAKIS.
G. NICOLAIDES.
M. D. KALOPOTHAKES.
Dr. THEODORIDES.
EM. PAPADAKIS.

Athènes, le

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

Mr. Erskine to M. Antoniades.

Monsieur, *Athènes, le 6 Janvier*, 1868.

EN rentrant ce matin chez moi on m'a remis un document à l'adresse de la Reine d'Angleterre, qui porte en tête votre signature, et que l'on désire, à ce que je crois, faire parvenir par mon entremise à sa haute destination.

N'ayant pas eu l'honneur de vous voir personnellement, je vous prie de faire savoir aux signataires de cette pièce que je regrette de ne pas pouvoir me charger d'un envoi qui se ferait peut-être plus convenable par la voie du Représentant de la Grèce à Londres.

J'ai donc l'honneur de vous restituer ci-joint le document dont il s'agit, et je saisis, &c.

(Signé) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 42.

Lord Lyons to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 17.)

(Extract.) *Paris, January 16*, 1868.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, I informed the Marquis de Moustier this afternoon that you had authorized Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to inform Fuad Pasha, confidentially, that in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government it would be well that the Porte should announce at once its determination to appoint a Christian to be Governor-General of Crete, and should name as soon as possible to the office a man whose character and known ability would be guarantees for the good administration of the government of the island.

M. de Moustier desired me to give your Lordship his best thanks for this communication. He said that he had no hesitation in telling me that he hoped the Porte would follow without delay the advice to name a Christian Governor.

No. 43.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 20*, 1868.

I HAVE to inform you that I approve your having declined to forward the petition of the Cretan Refugees Committee to the Queen as reported in your despatch of the 6th instant.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 44.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 26.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, January 13*, 1868.

A WEEK ago, not having been able to see Fuad Pasha myself, I sent him a message through the First Dragoman of the Embassy to remind him that the Sultan had voluntarily assured me of his willingness to appoint a Christian Governor.

I have, therefore, been in constant hopes of being told that this measure was about to be announced, and I begged to know whether any resolution had been come to.

His Highness' reply implied that a Governor for Crete would not be appointed before the pacification of the island is considered accomplished.

No. 45.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 26.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 15, 1868.

DESPATCHES were received yesterday afternoon from the Grand Vizier who represents matters in Crete to be progressing to his entire satisfaction, and who hopes to be able to return to Constantinople by the end of the month.

Vassili Kossakos, one of the insurgent Chiefs, had made his submission to the Grand Vizier with several of his partisans.

He reports Sawas and Kostaki Pashas, the two Christian district Governors, to have been established in their Governments, and to have organized the local assemblies and tribunals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 46.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 26.)

(Extract.) *Athens, January* 16, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Consul Dickson, dated the 13th instant, and of its inclosure, which appears to contain more recent intelligence respecting the insurrection in Crete than his last official despatch of the 10th instant.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, January* 13, 1868.

I HAVE just seen Sawas Pasha, who has been sent for by the Grand Vizier, and returns to his post to-morrow evening. He tells me that some 1,200 insurgents made a general attack the day before yesterday upon the Turkish encampment at Caina and Neochori. The former were led by Matheo and Gogonis. Zimbrakakis remained at Kosines. The attack commenced at 2 P.M., and lasted several hours. The insurgents had eleven killed, and on retiring carried off their wounded. The Turks had two killed and five or six wounded. I inclose the insurgent account of the affair.

You will, doubtless, have heard before now of a Christian girl having lately been murdered in Apokorona by Turkish troops. It so happens that she was disguised in man's clothes, and was killed in the act of making her escape along with some insurgents. The latter were caught in a farm and surrounded by troops at the time.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

Letter addressed to Consul Dickson.

Mon cher Monsieur, *Dimanche,*

VOUZ avez appris peut-être qu'un détachement Turc étant tombé, il y a trois jours, dans une embuscade d'insurgés à Caïna d'Apocorona, y a perdu plus de vingt-cinq hommes. Mais dans ce moment je viens de recevoir une lettre expédiée à la hâte par Zimbrakakis, où cet officier supérieur rend compte d'un combat très important, qui avait lieu hier à Neochori et à Caïna d'Apocorona, et qui continuait jusqu'au départ du courrier, c'est-à-dire, depuis huit heures consécutives. Voici la traduction du passage de la relation de Zimbrakakis relatif à cette très chaude affaire :—

" Le corps des insurgés concentré à Apocorona et composé de Sfakiotes et d'Apocoroniotes ne veut pas décidemment laisser l'ennemi en repos. A la suite d'un conseil de guerre tenu dans la journée d'hier, il a été décidé d'attaquer de tous côtés l'armée Turque campée à Neochori et Caïna. Par conséquent, aujourd'hui de grand matin, les positions

désignées ayant été occupées par les nôtres, l'attaque a commencée avec une telle vivacité qu'il est impossible de ne pas admirer l'audace de nos combattants, contre lesquels, outre la nombreuse mousqueterie, les Turcs envoient constamment une quantité considérable de projectiles; la pluie n'a nullement ralenti le feu terrible de la fusillade, et si elle ne devient pas torrentielle, nous espérons obtenir dans ce combat un immense résultat. Vous pouvez considérer cette affaire comme une des plus importantes qui aient eu lieu jusqu'ici en Crète.

"Le combat continue avec acharnement au moment où je vous trace ces lignes."

Tout à vous,

(Signé) C. B.

No. 47.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 28, 1868.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 13th instant, as to the delay which has taken place in the appointment of a Christian Governor for Crete, I have to observe to you that Her Majesty's Government see no reason to alter their opinion with regard to the advantage of such a measure, and you will therefore continue to press the point confidentially.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 48.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 30.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 10, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 30th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Sawas Pasha has established himself upon the highland at Kaïna, within three miles distance of Vamos, the latter village being deemed insecure.

The insurgents have made occasional sorties from the neighbouring villages, firing a few random shots upon Mehmet Ali Pasha's troops that are encamped in Apokorona. It appears, however, that Colonel Zimbrakakis has issued orders to the insurgents not to fire upon the troops except under circumstances of provocation.

The Russian corvette "Vitiaz," while in the act of embarking families at Armiro, was accosted by the Turkish iron-clad frigate "Osmanieh," with Admiral Vessim Pasha on board, bound to Candia port, for the purpose of bringing hither the Grand Vizier.

A difficulty having occurred in consequence of the Turkish flag-ship not returning the Russian salute, Vessim Pasha replied to Captain Zelenoï, when the latter came to the "Osmanieh," that Armiro was not a suitable place for firing salutes, added to which circumstance the "Osmanieh's" guns were all Armstrong and shotted.

The Turkish Admiral further protested against Russian or any other foreign ships removing families at night from the blockaded coast, and concluded by requesting that such service should in future be performed only between sunrise and sunset, and in presence of an Ottoman ship of war.

The "Vitiaz" having put into Suda Bay on the 26th ultimo, as already reported, the Russian flag was then saluted.

The "Nile," one of the Austrian Lloyd's boats, chartered by the Imperial Government, lately conveyed 600 Redifs from Constantinople.

The mail-boats of that Company are regularly employed in the transport of biscuit, flour, &c., for the army in Crete.

The "Enosis" blockade-runner plies almost weekly between Syra and Crete.

On the 2nd instant, the Greek clipper came to Phodeles Bay.

Admiral Vessim Pasha proceeds to-night to Constantinople by the "Ertogroul," which also takes 350 invalids.

Among the insurgent leaders that have quitted the island for Greece, are Captains Kostaro and Kokkinidis. The latter was severely wounded in one of the encounters at St. Myron, in Candia province.

This revolted island has, as far as I can judge, collapsed into a state of passive resistance.

Hundreds of insurgents daily resort to this town, in order to provide themselves with corn and other necessaries, having previously lodged their arms outside. By thus liberally affording access to the fortresses, and ordering the troops everywhere to remain on the defensive, in addition to the promises made of forthcoming Imperial concessions to the island at large, I infer that the Grand Vizier hopes gradually to persuade the malcontents to submit, at the same time that such a course of proceeding must remove every justifiable pretext on the part of foreign ships violating the blockade, and carrying off to Greece the non-combatant part of the Greek population, on mere grounds of humanity.

On the other hand, the "Provisional Government" seems to me to be equally determined not to accept, solely from the Porte, any offer of Imperial concessions; but by keeping alive a nucleus of rebellion on the spot (and the physical configuration of the island favours such a scheme), to bide its time, when the contingency of an exhausted Exchequer and other embarrassments to the Porte may combine with some foreign political complication in bringing about the long-hoped-for union of Crete with Greece.

According to an approximate estimate there are at present some 20,000 Cretan Greeks capable of bearing arms. To this number may be added 600 Hellenic volunteers. The insurgents are mostly armed with weapons of modern invention, and few only now cling to their family heir-looms when in active warfare, the antique Albanian musket. Colonel Zimbrakakis, with Captains Hadji Mikhali and Gogonis are in Apokorona-Crearis in Selinos, and Coracas, &c., in Candia Province. The Members of the Provisional Government usually assemble at different parts of Canea Province. The largest agglomeration of insurgent bands is now in Apokorona, being about 2,000 men.

The Turkish army consists of fifty battalions, or about 35,000 strong. These are disposed of as follows:—

Six battalions in Apokorona District, commanded by Mehmet Ali Pasha; five battalions in Sfakia; three battalions in Selinos; five battalions in Alikiano and Zourva; five battalions in Kissamos, Castelli, and its suburbs; six battalions in Canea Town. In Retimo Town are three battalions only. In Candia Province are seventeen battalions distributed over Temenos, Saint Myron, Saint Varvara, Lasethe, Castle Pediada, Sitia, and Mirabello.

Omer Pasha, Chief of the Staff of the Second Army Corps, directs military operations in these parts, pending the return of the Governor-General Hussein Avni Pasha, who is still in Candia. His Excellency having installed at Mirabello, Adossides Pasha, the newly appointed Christian Governor of Mirabello, Lasethe, and Sitia Districts, has since been on a reconnaissance to Lasethe.

I may here state that, with the exception of a few of the high officials, the army and navy, and the civil employés, are in arrears of pay averaging between six and fourteen months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—Zurba, which has been partly burnt down, is again in possession of its native occupants.

Raouf Pasha, with his division is encamped on heights below that village, the mountains being covered with snow.

As a small detachment of troops was last week proceeding to water at a fountain not far from Kaina, about 100 Cretans lying in ambush, fired upon the Turks, and carried off some of their mules.

The troops had also about ten casualties.

C. H. D.

No. 49.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 2.)

My Lord, *Athens, January 22, 1868.*

MR. CONSUL LLOYD has reported to me the arrival at Syra of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian" from Crete on the 19th instant. She brought a letter from Mr. Consul Dickson of the 14th; that is to say, only one day later than Mr. Dickson's last letter to me, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 16th instant. He states "some 1,200 insurgents under Matheo Gogonis attacked the Turkish camp at Neochori and Käina (in Apokorona) on Saturday last (the 11th): a few casualties on both sides, and no marked result, being all that is known."

*

Mr. Lloyd likewise reports that the "Enosis" blockade-runner returned to Syra on the 17th instant, after safely landing her cargo and passengers (with the exception of 250 boxes of cartridges) at a place called Stomio in the Province of Kissamos. She had intended to proceed to Suja, in Selinos, but was prevented by the bad weather from doing so.

Admiral Boutakoff, with three of the vessels of his squadron, left the Piræus a few days ago for Crete for the purpose, as is said, of bringing off a fresh batch of refugees; and some curiosity is evinced here to learn the result of his proceedings as this is his first visit to Crete since one of the Russian vessels was interrupted by Bessim Pasha, whilst embarking families in Armyro Bay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 50.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 3.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 19, 1868.

I HAD a conversation with Fuad Pasha yesterday upon the affairs of Crete, when he told me he continued to receive satisfactory accounts from the Grand Vizier who has sent up the project of the Constitution of the General Assembly. When this has received the sanction of the Sultan, the Grand Vizier will have completed the organization of the island he was sent to carry out, and might probably be able to return to Constantinople soon after the Beiram, or about the end of the month.

I said he must allow me to express my regret that he still avoided coming to any decision for the appointment of a Christian Governor-General, and I adverted with regret to the message he had sent me, that it would be taken into consideration when the pacification was complete. To put it off till then was in fact to avoid making use of the most powerful instrument for arriving at the pacification.

I informed his Highness that I had received instructions from your Lordship, by telegraph, to speak in this sense, and I urged that the return of Aali Pasha from Crete was exactly the moment which should be seized for the nomination of a Governor-General.

Fuad Pasha was very cautious in not taking any engagement with regard to such an appointment, and I cannot avoid the conviction that he means to abstain from moving in it till the return of the Grand Vizier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 51.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 3.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, January* 22, 1868.

A REPORT that Mithad Pasha was about to be named Governor-General of Crete, which reached me after I had seen Fuad Pasha on the 18th, induced me to desire Mr. Pisani to inquire into the truth of it, and to say I should look upon such an appointment as a direct breach of the assurance given me by the Sultan.

I inclose the report I have received from Mr. Pisani on the subject, which is of importance as conveying a recognition by Fuad Pasha of the engagement of the Porte for the appointment of a Christian Governor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Mr. Pisani to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Pera, January* 21, 1868.

I ASKED Fuad Pasha whether there was any foundation in the report that Mithad Pasha was to be appointed as Governor for Crete. His Highness replied that the

presence of Mithad Pasha being indispensable in the vilayet of the Danube, the Porte has not the least intention of removing him.

Having reverted once more to the subject of a Christian Governor-General for Crete, his Highness said that Hussein Avni Pasha being at present filling the functions of Governor-General and Commander-in-chief, his removal just now is not thought advisable; but if it be decided to change him, the Porte then, as she has promised, will choose a Christian Governor-General, and give the command of the troops to another officer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. PISANI.

No. 52.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 4.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January 18, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, reporting, amongst other items of intelligence, the departure from Candia Town of Hussein Pasha, Governor-General of Crete, on a reconnaissance of the eastern districts of the island; and that his Excellency was accompanied by Kostaki Adossides Pasha.

Since the receipt of Mr. Calocherino's letter, Hussein Pasha and Staff have returned to Canea. Kostaki Adossides Pasha has established himself at Fournes, in Mirabello.

On the morning of the 10th instant, a body of insurgents, reckoned to have been 1,200, and led by Captains Matheos and Gogonis, opened a somewhat brisk fire upon different parts of the Turkish encampment at Kaïna and Neokhori. The attack lasted several hours, despite a heavy rain. The insurgents were everywhere repulsed, with a loss of eleven killed and wounded. These were all removed from the field by their comrades. The Imperial troops suffered not so many casualties as the Greeks.

Sawas Pasha, who had been sent for by the Grand Vizier since the above-stated occurrence, returned to Kaïna on Sunday last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, January 13, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Hussein Pasha, the Governor-General, and Kostaki Pasha, the Governor of the Eastern Districts,—namely, Mirabello, Lasethe, Hierapetra, and Sitia,—left last week on board two Government steamers, with troops, to reconnoitre the various eastern districts of this island, through which Arif Pasha had previously passed by land, and where many engagements have taken place, but without any result. On the return of the troops with Arif Pasha, two peaceable Christians, while ploughing in their fields at Stalida, on the north coast of Pediada, were murdered and cut to pieces, and a great number of villages inhabited by peaceable Christians (a small number of whom were with the insurgents) have been pillaged and sacked. The victims are not yet known.

In the village of Apano Viano, however, where all the houses were pillaged and sacked by the troops, and four churches profaned and destroyed, Arif Pasha paid to the inhabitants 7,000 piastres for all the injuries inflicted, and forced the inhabitants to give him a written declaration thanking him for the conduct of the troops under his command.

Every day the unfortunate Christians who come to this town are surprised, maltreated, and robbed by the Turks.

A great number of insurgents, as it is stated, are concentrated now in the district of Malevese.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 53.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 4, 1868.

HER Majesty's Government approve the language held by your Excellency to Fuad Pasha respecting the expediency of a Christian Governor-General for Crete being appointed without delay, as reported in your despatch of the 19th ultimo. Her Majesty's Government also approve the steps taken by you to ascertain the intentions of the Porte, as reported in your further despatch of the 22nd ultimo. You will continue to hold the Porte to the promise which has been made to confer this appointment on a Christian.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 54.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 7.)

My Lord, *Athens, January* 29, 1868.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 9th instant transmitting copies of a despatch addressed by Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha respecting the obstacles interposed in this country to the return home of some of the Cretans who have taken refuge in Greece, I have the honour to state that Photiades Bey, the Turkish Envoy at this Court, has recently been directed to take steps with a view to the return to Crete of the family of a priest who resides at Platania, near Canea, by whom a petition in this sense had been addressed to Aali Pasha.

Photiades Bey first applied officially upon the subject to the Minister of the Interior, by whom he was informed, after the lapse of about a week, that he could obtain no tidings of the family in question. M. Photiades, therefore, employed a person in his service in making inquiries, and had no difficulty in discovering the family he was in search of. He, however, found also that an agent of the local authorities had been beforehand with him, and that, although the family of the man who had applied to Aali Pasha were most desirous to return to Crete, they were dissuaded or prevented from doing so by the police; and they ultimately admitted to M. Photiades' messenger that they did not dare to avail themselves of M. Photiades' offer to send them home at the expense of the Turkish Government.

Eventually, it would appear, these persons were taken before the Relief Committee presided over by General Church, and made to sign a paper, of which a translation is inclosed herewith, by which they declared that they had never entertained any thought of abandoning the country in which they had taken refuge.

M. Photiades is naturally indignant with the Minister of the Interior for the deceit which he considers has been practised upon him on this occasion, but he sees little or no hope of any of the refugees being allowed to return to Crete until the island shall have been annexed to Greece or until the Greek people are tired of supporting them.

I have no means of ascertaining to what extent these people are really desirous of adopting the terms offered them by the Porte; but I cannot believe that any considerable number of them have any such desire; they bear their sad fate with great patience and good humour, and people of all classes here are doing their utmost to feed and clothe them. Strange to say, none of the men show the least disposition to earn a livelihood by manual labour, although many of them have great difficulty in eking out a mere subsistence. As a proof of their gentle inoffensive disposition, I may mention that, in spite of the privations to which they are exposed, I have not as yet heard of one single instance in which an act of violence has been committed by the Cretans, although their children are known to be dying in great numbers from the effects of want and exposure.

Late at night on the 25th instant a Russian corvette landed a very large number of Cretan refugees (which I have heard computed at upwards of 1,000) at the Piræus, and other vessels may shortly be expected back with similar cargos.

I have the honour to inclose an extract from a letter I have received from Mr. Consul Dickson, which is three days later than his last despatch to your Lordship, and also an extract from a letter from Her Majesty's Consul at Syra, giving the latest Cretan intelligence as circulated by the Insurrectionary Committee there. The Minister for Foreign Affairs has shown me a despatch from the Greek Consul, dated Candia, the 20th instant, in which he describes an affair between a body of insurgents and

the Turkish troops, at about an hour's distance from the town, resulting in the repulse of the latter with heavy loss. The Mussulman population of Candia are represented in this letter as having been so exasperated by their defeat that they fell upon a body of unarmed Christians who were entering the town to purchase supplies, and killed and wounded a great many of them—about fifty, all more or less injured, having taken refuge at the Russian Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

Depositions of Despinia Frangakis and of her son Gregoire.

CE jourd'hui, 9 Janvier (v.s.) de l'an 1868, la Commission pour les réfugiés Crétois, réunie dans la maison de son Président, le Général Church ;

En présence du dit Président, du Vice-Président S. Antoniadis, et des Membres A. Negris, G. Nicolaidis, Jean Hill, S. Crinos, A. Théodoridis, A. Maryolakis, Em. Tombazis, M. Kalapothakis, et Jean Papadakis ;

Elle a fait comparaître, à la suite d'un ordre du Ministre de l'Intérieur, l'épouse du prêtre Jean Frangakis, nommée Despinia, âgée de quarante-cinq ans, et son fils le prêtre Grégoire, âgé de vingt-huit ans, tous deux du village de Platanià, de la Province de Cydonies en Candie, et leur demanda s'ils avaient eu l'intention de partir pour la Crète, et si quelqu'un les en empêcha. Tous deux répondirent que jamais ils n'ont conçu un tel projet, et que personne ne les empêcha de l'accomplir. Ils ajoutèrent que, lors même que la Commission aurait l'intention de les priver de ses secours, ils n'étaient pas disposés à retourner dans leur pays pour le moment. Ils dirent encore que leurs époux et père, le prêtre Jean Frangakis, était parti depuis un mois du Pirée pour la Canée sur le bateau-poste Autrichen pour ses intérêts, et que lors même que celui-ci leur écrirait de là de retourner dans leur pays, ils étaient décidés à ne point partir d'ici. Les susmentionnés déclarèrent à la fin qu'ils firent les mêmes réponses à un employé de la Légation Ottomane à Athènes, qui leur avait été envoyé exprès, Samedi passé (6 Janvier), pour leur dire qu'en cas où ils avaient l'intention de partir, la Légation s'empresserait de leur en fournir les moyens.

En foi de quoi, le présent procès-verbal a été dressé et signé par les Membres de la Commission et par les comparants, la dame Despinia, épouse du prêtre Jean Frangakis, et de son fils le prêtre Grégoire Frangakis.

Le Président,
(Signé) CHURCH.
S. ANTONIADIS.
J. HILL.
G. NICOLAIDES.
E. TOMBAZIS.
A. MARIOLAKIS.
A. THEODORIDIS.
A. NEGRIS.
S. CRINOS.
M. KALAPOTHAKIS.
EM. PAPADAKIS.
J. PAPADAKIS.

Les interrogés,
(Signé) GREGOIRE FRANGAKIS.
(Pour l'illettrée Despinia Frangakis est signé le même Grégoire Frangakis.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Canea, Crete, January* 23, 1868.

ADMIRAL BOUTAKOFF, with the squadron under his command has arrived from Piræus, and will as soon as the weather moderates, I hear, proceed to remove families. His destination may possibly be Agia Pelagia. In reply to a query of mine, the Admiral

observed that there are still many Cretans waiting on the coast of the island for Russian ships to carry them away and that he had recently been requested by the Hellenic authorities to return to the island for that purpose. The insurgents believe that Russia will go to war with Turkey in spring.

On Monday last, as a party of Cretan Turks were proceeding to cut wood at Gazi, near Heraclion, a band of insurgents fell upon them, and it is said struck off the heads of twenty. The alarm having spread, 1,000 Cretan Turks sallied out of Heraclion, contrary to the Governor's orders, in order to assist their brethren. A detachment of troops was also dispatched to the scene of conflict, and after a few hours' fight the insurgents retreated. The Greeks had seventeen killed. A very bitter feeling is said to prevail amongst the Mussulmen at Candia in consequence, and these threaten the life of every Greek that shall enter the town.

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

(Extract.) *Syra, January* 25, 1868.

MR. DICKSON writing on the 23rd, merely mentions a report of the intention of the insurgents to make another demonstration against Sawas Pasha in Apokorona.

Mr. Stillman on the 20th says, there are 1,400 sick and wounded Turkish soldiers in the hospitals, and the mortality is still great: that the troops are mutinous, and one battalion was sent back by Sawas because they refused to obey unless allowed to kill all the Christians they found.

Mr. Alexis writes from Canea (no date), the Grand Vizier was reported to be leaving shortly for Constantinople, but he is still working for the pacification of the island. He has published a notice that it is not allowed to Cretans to leave the island and return to it; and that if they return again they will not be allowed to land. On the eve of the 18th a proclamation of the insurgents was found placarded, inviting the Mussulman Cretans to join them, and destroy the Government of the Sultan. On hearing of it, the Grand Vizier exclaimed "Bah! we have then insurgents in the town. Some of these Cretans must be sent away."

A letter from Heraclion of the 21st to the Committee here, says the insurgents under Korakas, Mitzas, Petropoulaki, and Sphakianides attacked the Turks in Malevesi and Mirabello; that the Turks fell into an ambuscade and lost many. Fifty Mussulman Cretans and six of the regulars being made prisoners; and the Turks pursued to the walls of the fortress. That the Turks have perpetrated atrocities in the submitted villages outside Megalo Kastron, killing Christians and threatening to kill all inside the fortress during Bairam; that some Christians have already sought refuge in the Consulates; but that it is considered there will be no danger if foreign Govenments vessels be at Candia during Bairam; and the writer requests the Committee to make this known. The proclamation of the insurgents was also found placarded in Megalo Kastron.

No. 55.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 24, 1868.

LAST week, a declaration made by the Grand Vizier to the Cretan Delegates embodying certain concessions to the island, was printed off in Turkish and Greek. Copies of it have been distributed over various parts of the island. I have the honour to inclose a translation.

According to this manifesto, the island is to be exempted for the two following years beginning from next March, from all tithes leviable on native produce, &c.; that on and after March in the year 1870, and also for a period of two years, a half tithe, say 5 per cent., will be levied instead of the usual tithe; the proceeds thereof to be applied to public works, and in such manner as the General Assembly of the island may deem advisable. Moreover, that the Porte acknowledging in the bedelieh a well-founded cause of inequality between two classes of subjects having equal rights to the goodwill of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan, this military tax is abolished, and hence the Christian inhabitants of the island shall be exempted from such contributions so long as the Cretan Mussulman population shall be free from the conscription.

It is hardly necessary for me to remark that the above quoted concessions are well-judged, and there is reason to hope that they will be appreciated in course of time by the majority, at least, of the disaffected population of this province and of the whole island likewise.

Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino reports less favourably as to the effect produced on Candia province by these substantial marks of Imperial favour as may be seen by the subjoined extract from a letter addressed to me on the 20th instant:—

"The Government has lately proclaimed here that the tithes on all productions will not be levied for two years, from the 1st of March next, and for the two following years it will only levy a half tithe. Moreover the military tax, which hitherto was paid by the Christians only, is no longer to be levied, and as long as the Cretan Mussulmans are free from military service.

"These concessions although very liberal, have not caused any favourable impression on the Christian inhabitants of this province, who, both highlanders and lowlanders, in regard to their political aim, are in perfect accord with the Central Insurrectionary Committee residing in Canea province."

The classification here made by Mr. Calocherino of the native population into highlanders and lowlanders, I consider now hardly applicable to Crete, which being mostly a hilly island, and since the outbreak of the insurrection, the bulk of its Christian inhabitants have been shifting their abodes alternately to the mountains and to the lower country, as the exigencies of the warfare suggested themselves. In a former report (November 11, 1867) I stated that the districts constituting the Province of Retimo had, with one exception refused to send delegates to the Grand Vizier. They have since been depopulated, in a great measure by emigration, and any effect that the Vizirial Declaration might produce there can hardly be taken into account at the present moment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON

Inclosure in No. 55.

Declaration made by Aali Pasha, and communicated to the Assembly of Delegates of the Island of Crete, at the beginning of the Session, on the 23rd December (o.s.), 1867.

(Translation.)

Delegates,

HIS Majesty the Sultan, our august and illustrious Sovereign, in his constant anxiety for the happiness and well-being of all his subjects, has been graciously pleased to take into special consideration the unfortunate state to which the Island of Crete has been reduced in consequence of wicked machinations and foreign intrigues.

Being desirous, therefore, of contributing as much as possible towards alleviating those calamities which have befallen the island, and to afford its population the means of restoring it to its former prosperous condition, His Majesty has authorized me to declare:—

1. That, beginning from the 1st of March of next year, 1868, and during the two following years, exemption is granted to all the inhabitants of the island from the tithe on all the produce subjected to that tax.

2. That, at the expiration of the two years above-stated of full exemption from tithe, and beginning from the 1st of March, 1870, one half the tithe, say 5 per cent., will be equally levied during the period of two years for and instead of the tithe. The proceeds of such half tithe will be applied to the execution of useful public works which the General Assembly of the island may designate, and in such manner as it may deem most desirable.

His Imperial Majesty, moreover, wishing to place all the inhabitants of the island on a footing of perfect equality, and seeing that the tax for exemption from military service has hitherto been exacted exclusively from the Christian inhabitants of the island, while the Mussulman population was equally exempt from that service and its contribution, and that such tax, in the manner it was levied, raised a difference between two classes of subjects having the same claims to Imperial goodwill, has ordered me to declare, that this military tax is abolished for the Island of Crete; and that the Christian inhabitants of the island will be exempted from every contribution of this kind so long as the Mussulman population of the island shall not be subjected to the conscription.

Such are, Gentlemen, the new favours graciously granted by His Imperial Majesty to the population of the island, the importance and value of the same will, I am sure, be appreciated by every Cretan.

Hasten, then, to bring the gratifying intelligence to the knowledge of all your countrymen, and, moved by gratitude, exert all your efforts in order that by establishing order and public tranquillity on the island, you may respond worthily to His Imperial Majesty's sentiments of justice and goodwill.

No. 56.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 11.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 25, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, containing some general observations upon the present revolted state of Mirabello, and that the Mussulman population of Candia Province, suffering severely from destitution and their protracted confinement within Megalo-Kastron, have given expression to their grievances in a petition to the Sultan.

A very bitter feeling prevails against the Greek population, and the Cretan Mussulmans recently vented their rage upon several inoffensive peasants coming from Dibaki, whom they assaulted and forcibly seized their horses and mules as they approached the town. Mr. Calocherino testifies to having seen forty men and two women wounded brought in. Mr. Calocherino further reports that an engagement took place near Gazi on the 20th instant.

From such accounts of it as have since come to my knowledge, and judging by an official report communicated by Pertew Pasha, Governor of Candia, to the Governor-General here, the Turkish authorities had, a few days previous to that occurrence, received warning that insurgents from Mylopotamos and other neighbouring districts were gathering to attack the rear guard of a Turkish column that was advancing on St. Varvara. According to another version, the insurgents merely intended to make a raid into the plain of Megalo-Kastron. It so happened that a party of Cretan Turks having gone towards Gazi for the purpose of cutting wood for fuel, were surrounded by insurgents, as these rapidly rushed down from Tylissus to the number of some 2,000 led by Coracos and other Chiefs. Twenty of these Turks were soon killed. Meanwhile, two battalions, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hussein Bey, marching to St. Myron (Chatal Keny) came to the rescue. The alarm having spread to Megalo-Kastron, reinforcements consisting of 1 battalion with 2 field-pieces, a squadron of Circassian cavalry, and 1,000 irregulars, were dispatched to the scene of action, and the Turkish corvette "Lebanon," having taken up a position in Candia Bay, began shelling the enemy. By the afternoon the insurgents were driven up in the direction of Mount Stromboli, leaving seventeen corpses on the field: their wounded being, as usual, carried off by comrades, the number cannot be ascertained.

The Turkish casualties exceeded 100.

Pertew Pasha asserts that four Turkish prisoners had their throats cut by the Greeks, and that two days after the encounter the mangled bodies of two Turkish females were discovered exposed on the beach.

In view of the present state of affairs and the Bairam festival, which latter is the occasion for much revelry and excitement amongst Mussulmans, the French Consul has just sent off the "Salamandre" despatch-boat to Candia for the protection of French subjects. Rear-Admiral Boutakoff with his squadron having arrived from Piræus, the Russian flagship has also now steamed to Candia, and, after Bairam, will, I hear, proceed to Dhia Bay for families. The "Witiaz" and "Bombori" are gone, the former to Suia, the latter to Ayia-Pelayia, or Dhia, on a similar service.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian" having gone to Syra ten days ago, for coals, will call at Candia on her return hither very shortly.

The United States' corvette "Ticanderoga" has just entered Suda Bay coming from Messina.

I hear it stated, on reliable authority, that Captain Kastaro Velondaki, having now returned from Greece in one of the Russian ships, has brought instructions to the Provisional Government, from the Cretan Committee at Athens, for the insurgents to hold out, as the Cretan question will soon be solved by the intervention of some of the European Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—*January* 27.—Her Majesty's ship "Tyrian" returned from Candia this morning. The "Salamandre" has also arrived. The statement respecting the murder and mutila-

tion of the two Turkish women has not been confirmed, but it was current in Candia Town. About fifteen of the Turks killed at Gazi, their heads were cut off and their bodies strung up to trees. Some of the Dibaki peasants were ill-treated by Turks within as well as outside the town.

The "Tyrian" remained two days at Candia.

C. H. D.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, January* 20, 1868.

AFTER the tour of Hussein Pasha, the Governor-General, and Kostaki Pasha, Governor of the Eastern Districts, as I mentioned to you in my last despatch of the 13th instant, the former has returned to Canea through this port, and the latter has remained in the village Furnes, of Mirabello, with a strong body of troops, and meanwhile has sent another one to Neokhorio, of Mirabello, which is, however, almost every day attacked by the insurgents. It is stated, at the same time, that the troops, vexed by these attacks, have plundered most of the houses of the said village, and that some of the peaceful inhabitants were also injured. Another body of troops returning to this town, while passing through Mirabello, has been attacked at three different places by the insurgents.

You are aware, Sir, that the chief produce of this island is olive oil, which last year entirely failed. Very little corn was sown last year, the exportation of seed to the districts being prohibited, and consequently much poverty prevails among all the inhabitants. Besides this, the Mussulman Cretans being confined in this fortress, and having abandoned their lands in the hands of the insurgents, have necessarily lost a great part of the produce of their vineyards, and have not been able to cultivate at all their fields, except in the environs of the town.

This state of things led them to address a petition to His Majesty the Sultan, in which they state, as I have been informed, some fair complaints against the local authorities for neglect, and want of capacity in affording efficient relief to their wants; and that the greatest part of the relief funds and provisions sent for the suffering Cretan population was distributed amongst the Christian poor families in this town, and that they (the Mahometan) had only a small share of it,—though this complaint is entirely groundless, as I have been informed by the Relief Commissioners of this town. It is also rumoured that if redress is not given by the festivals of next Bairám, they will go out and plunder the neighbouring villages inhabited by the Christians, and that they will not spare even life within or without the town. Such threats, though very likely to intimidate, are not quite void of probability under the present circumstances.

A fight has taken place to-day near the village Gazi, in Malvese, between the insurgents and the Mussulman Cretans, assisted by a body of cavalry and infantry troops. The engagement began at day-break, and lasted till 4 o'clock P.M. The loss on both sides is still unknown. All Greek peasants who happened to enter the town while the Turks were running out to the fight were, within and without the town, severely struck and more or less dangerously wounded by the latter, as well as by some Mussulman shopkeepers.

I saw some forty of these unfortunate men and two women wounded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 57.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 14.)

(Extract.) *Athens, February* 5, 1868.

SINCE I had last the honour of addressing your Lordship, Mr. Consul Lloyd has reported to me that the "Enosis" has made two fresh trips to Crete with her usual cargoes of provisions and ammunition for the insurgents, and a few returning Cretans. On the first occasion she went to Malia, of Mirabello, and to Sissi, in the same district, returning to Syra on the 27th ultimo. On her second voyage she landed her cargo at Fineki, in Agios Basileos, returning in safety to Syra on the 1st instant, without having on either occasion fallen in with any Turkish cruizers.

The Russian flag-ship "Alexandre Newsky" returned to the Piræus a few days ago with some hundred Cretans on board; and the Russian corvette "Witiaz" arrived here the day before yesterday with nearly 400 refugees, chiefly men.

P.S. *February* 6.—Since this despatch was written I have received a despatch from Consul Lloyd, of which the inclosed is a copy, reporting a fresh successful voyage of the "Crete," blockade-runner—the third within little more than a week.

E. M. E.

Inclosure in No. 57.

Consul Lloyd to Mr. Erskine.

Sir, *Syra, February* 4, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report the third voyage of the "Crete" (56th of blockade running), to Crete and back. The "Crete" left Syra yesterday the 3rd instant, at 1 P.M., with usual cargo, and some 125 returning Cretans, and going by Milo went direct to Ayia Pelagia, where she arrived at 11 P.M. of the same day; but finding a Turkish cruizer anchored there, she left for Phodeli, and finding the same cruizer again there, left and went to Bali, where she landed everything, and brought away eight Cretans. On leaving Bali the "Crete" sighted a Turkish cruizer some six miles off, but came here direct without molestation, arriving at Syra at 4 P.M. this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ST. VINCENT LLOYD.

No. 58.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, January* 29, 1868.

THE Austrian Lloyds' mail-boat, which arrived here yesterday from Candia and Retimo, having brought me a Report from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, explaining more fully than his previous letter did, the affair at Gazi; I accordingly inclose an extract marked No. 1.

I also transmit a translation of the petition, as per No. 2, from the Cretan Christians to the Vice-Consuls at Heraclion, adverted to by Mr. L. A. Calocherino.

Concurrently with the receipt of the above quoted Report, I was informed by the Consular Agent at Retimo, under date 27th instant:—"That on the 23rd instant the insurgents carried off many heads of cattle in the environs of Retimo Town, belonging to Turks, and after killing two of the latter they decamped. The military authorities having been informed of this incident, sent out a detachment of troops to drive the insurgents away. The troops returned without doing anything, as the insurgents had already left. On the 25th the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages rushed into town panic-stricken. A deputation presented itself to this Consular Agency and delivered a letter praying that I should interfere in their behalf, and save them and their children from exposure, and from the vengeance of both Greeks and Turks. Yesterday the insurgents came down to Platania; they murdered a Turk, and took away two bullocks. An express also came in with the news that the insurgents were mustering in force in the vicinity of the town."

A translation of the petition addressed to Mr. George Calocherino is inclosed sub No. 3.

Intelligence of the alleged outrages at Retimo had hardly reached the Grand Vizier, than his Highness at once dispatched Server Effendi to the spot to institute an inquiry into the case. I am unable as yet to pronounce any decided opinion on the allegations contained in the two petitions referred to, but I cannot help considering them as much exaggerated.

A circular has been addressed to the Consuls by the Provisional Government. Inclosure No. 4 is a translation. It criticises, as will be seen, the administrative measures adopted by the Grand Vizier for conciliating the Cretan insurgents, particularly with reference to the recent appointment of Christian Governors in the Island. It further expresses astonishment at the fact of Europe not sooner settling this Cretan question.

I question the truth of the assertion that the Imperial troops have lately been making raids on the districts in the island: on the contrary, I consider they have been acting on the defensive for some time past.

The "Shaodiyeh" ship of the line has just arrived from the Turkish capital with some 1,800 infantry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

P.S.—Lieutenant Church, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Tyrian," while last at Candia, visited the hospital in with the Dibaki peasants, that were maltreated on entering the town, are confined. Their wounds, or rather bruises, were slight.

Having communicated to the Grand Vizier the contents of the Candia and Retimo petitions, his Highness made no remark, as Server Effendi had not returned from Retimo.

C. H. D.

Inclosure 1 in No. 58.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, January 27, 1868.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 20th instant, I have the honour to give you the following details on the engagement at Gazi:—

It seems that the insurgents, very early in the morning of the 20th, laid an ambush at Cavrochori as far as Armyro; a great number of Mahometan Cretans, some with arms and some without, going on that day to Cavrochori to cut wood, fell into the ambush of the insurgents, some Turks saw and distinguished one of the insurgents, and fired at him and then all the insurgents appeared, and immediately an engagement began; the Government as soon as it was informed of it, sent to Gazi a body of cavalry of 100 Circassians and some Cretans. The number of the irregular Turks who took part in this fight is not exactly known, some say they (the irregular Turks) were about 1,500 men, and others that there were more that 3,000. Hussein Bey too, who was going to Agia Varvara, and was two miles from this town, proceeded at once to Gazi with two battalions of regular troops to assist the irregulars.

According to what I hear from the Turks who took part in the fight the insurgents were about 2,500 men, under Coracos, Romano, Seula, and other chiefs.

It seems that the Turks advanced on the heights of Servigly as soon as Seula withdrew, and again the Turks retreated, but at all events, as the position of the insurgents was stronger, they lost less in men than the Turks. About seventy wounded Turks were brought into the town.

Some Turks brought two Christian heads and one moustache saying they had cut them from the insurgents.

Yesterday his Excellency Pertew Pasha, the Governor of this Province, invited me, as well as all my colleagues to be present at 5 o'clock P.M. at the examination of some corpses of Turks in the Turkish cemetery; we saw three men killed. The first had a wound of a bullet shot in the chest, and the left ear was cut off; the second corpse was without head, and had a wound of a bullet shot on the left thigh; and the third one had also a sabre wound on the throat, and the left ear was cut off; there were five more killed, but as it was too late we could not see them.

All these men were killed at Gazi on the 20th instant. No corpse of any Turkish woman was found.

On the morning of the 24th instant, Her Majesty's ship "Tyrian" arrived from Syra, and having remained until yesterday morning, sailed for Canea.

On the same day the Russian Admiral Boutakoff with two war steamers, one of which was the frigate "Alexander Newsky," called at Ayia-Pelagia and took some Greek families which he sent to Greece by one of the steamers, and then proceeded back on board the frigate, and remained here till yesterday, when he left to take more families from the same places.

As he was going to Ayia-Pelagia, he was followed by an Imperial Ottoman sloop.

Very early in the morning of the 25th, the French gun-boat "Salamandre" also arrived and left yesterday for Canea.

Fortunately nothing has disturbed the public peace in town during the Bairam. It is true, however, that the local authorities have taken very severe measures to preserve peace, having even imprisoned some Turks who were firing off arms in the town.

The Government has these days prohibited all the Greek villagers who were found in town, to purchase and convey to their villages the least quantity of food.

Some of the Christian inhabitants of this town signed a petition addressed to all

the Vice-Consuls, copy of which was remitted to me, as well as to every one of my colleagues, as I believe.

After stating in the petition their complaints against the Turkish population, and their sufferings, they beg to be removed from this port by European ships. I inclose you herewith the original.

The number of the Imperial regular troops in this province amounts to 14,000, or 18 battalions, and besides there is a body of cavalry consisting of 350 Circassians, and 250 artillery.

By order of the Governor-General the local authorities have also appointed here a Bimbashi commanding 1,000 Bashi-bazouks, and six Cretan captains commanding in all 600 men.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 58.

Petition from Cretan Christians to the Vice-Consuls of the Christian Powers at Candia, Crete.

(Translation.)

Sirs, *Candia, January* $\frac{12}{24}$, 1868.

THE Christian inhabitants resident in the town of Candia respectfully represent by the present, and with deep concern, that now for two years have we borne no end of misery, ill treatment, and destitution. We are suffering much, and are in extreme distress. Our miseries are due to the excesses committed by our countrymen, the Ottomans, and under the eyes of the authorities. Our grievances are not inquired into, and hence we are in great fear, and our condition is a desperate one. We are reduced to great straits by the events which have lately occurred. On the roads leading to the town, and even within the town itself, Christians have been beaten by Ottomans, by their women, and also by troops. They fall upon us like mad dogs, with rage, and with sticks in their hands. Many have been wounded, and their clothes, animals, the burdens the latter carried, have all been seized; they are in a distressing plight, and have barely escaped with their lives.

The authorities have done nothing by way of reparation or justice, nor have they inflicted any kind of punishment; and you, the Vice-Consuls, are witnesses to this fact.

We now come to you with tears, praying that you would relieve us, for the sake of your humane Governments, which you have the honour to represent.

We earnestly entreat that ships of war may come and remove us, in order to spare us further miseries and rescue us from death at the hands of the Turks during the approaching festival of Bairam. We beg you to forward the present as soon as possible.

We are, &c.
(Here follow 169 signatures.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 58.

Petition from the Cretan Christians to the Consular Agents of England, France, Russia, and Italy, at Retimo.

(Translation.)

Sirs, *Retimo, January* $\frac{14}{26}$, 1868.

WE, the inhabitants of Retimo and its neighbouring villages, respectfully inform you of the outrages recently committed by the Turks, on the $\frac{12}{24}$th instant, on unarmed and quiet Christians, at the villages of Atzipopoulo and Galo, in consequence of a skirmish that had taken place there between the Turks and insurgents. These Turks, according to their wont, fell upon the villages in question, slaughtering their inmates with knives, as if they were so many sheep; and this they did in the presence of their wives and children. Many have also been shot through by bullets. These atrocious deeds have created a general terror.

At Atzipopoulo, six have been killed, namely, Joannis Paputzakis, Manoli Perperis, Georgio Stathis, Hadji Mikhalis, Mikhalis Perperis, and Vassilios Karayannakis. This last had five musket-shot wounds. At Galo, three have been killed, Joannis Psykogio, Georgio Baskakis, Demetrio Velonakis; their aggregate ages were between 10 and 100 years. Not satisfied with what they had already done, the Turks set to robbing everybody who chanced to fall in their way, in quest of money and trinkets. They slit open the

women's dresses and searched their persons. On the same day they evidently intended committing similar outrages in Retimo town, but were refused admittance by troops posted at the town gates. A Turk, in a fit of rage, struck with the butt-end of his musket Constantino Yannakothakis of Milos on his hand, who is lying dangerously ill in consequence. Had not another Turk come to the rescue, a certain Paolo Pnemenpi would have been killed. He was robbed, so were Manoli Yanuli of Atzipopoulo, and Manoli Kynigakin; the latter outside Retimo town.

The following day, the wives and children of those that had been murdered came to the town gates, and endeavoured to gain admittance, to inform the authorities. This was not permitted them. Behold, Sirs, to what a miserable condition we are reduced; and after all the promises and counsels offered by the Grand Vizier and various Governors to the effect that our lives should be safe and our property respected, instead, we are treated in such a barbarous manner.

After the events that have taken place we respectfully request you to obtain an assurance that our persons, our homes, and other property be respected. The matter having been treated with indifference by the authorities, please also to request your superiors to send ships to remove us hence.

We hereby enter our protest, in the name of all the Christian inhabitants, against all the aforesaid foul deeds and robberies, and against any further outrages that may be perpetrated upon us.

We remain, &c.

(Here follow 93 signatures.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 58.

Circular Letter addressed by the Provisional Government to all the Consuls resident at Canea, dated from Asygonia, in Apokorona, January $\frac{6}{18}$, 1868.

(Translation.)

Sirs,

PREVIOUS to the arrival in Crete of Aali Pasha, a report had been spread to the effect that the new Ottoman Delegate had discovered the reason why the population of this island could no longer come to an understanding with the Ottoman Government, and that his Highness had undeceived the Porte by disclosing the real state of things in Crete. But in this respect the Grand Vizier has not displayed any more frankness than his predecessors have done.

After exhausting every fraudulent means in order to bring about the acceptance of the Administrative organization inaugurated by him and his Lieutenants, his Highness has at last decided on imposing the same by force on the inhabitants of Crete; hence he has given orders to his troops, being already in open hostility with the Christians, to continue their raids on the various districts in the island, and thrust upon them by bloodshed and terror the so-called Governors. But such has never been the desire of the Cretans, who are well aware that the employés of every Government, whatever their religion, are bound to follow the political system of their Government. The Cretan insurrection has not been caused by difference of religion in the Rulers, but rather by the wretched Central Government that appointed such functionaries. It is such a Government as this that the Cretan population rejects; and all the so-called reforms and organizations cannot hereafter produce the least impression upon the minds of the inhabitants of this island, who will constantly persist in their solemn resolution, repeatedly expressed, especially on the $\frac{4}{16}$th of November last.

In corroboration of this assertion, we may quote the district of Apokorona, to which the Christian Pasha Sawas proceeded with a numerous army, to be installed there as Governor, and where, in the course of a few days, four bloody encounters have taken place. Nevertheless, the Grand Vizier, consistently with the policy hitherto pursued by the Porte's Delegates, causes, as we learn, a report to be spread in Europe, that the Cretans have submitted, that his Highness' administrative measures have been accepted by the population, and, in short, that the island will soon be pacified. Against whom, then, are the Ottoman armies now struggling throughout the island, if the Cretans have in reality submitted? How comes it that the organization in question can have been accepted by the people when their wishes have never been consulted? By what means can they succeed in pacifying the island, so long as the rights of its inhabitants are not taken into consideration?

For our part, we still cherish the hope that on the present occasion, like on many others, facts will give a positive denial to such inconsistent assertions, which are so utterly unfounded.

It is, however, surprising that Europe should continue to tolerate the so oft-repeated falsehood and so much effusion of blood in Crete.

If not justice, ought not civilization at least to put an end to this affair?

Be good enough to convey to your respective august Governments the expression of our astonishment in regard to this matter, assuring them at the same time of the inalterable resolution in the Cretan people to persevere to the last extremity in vindicating its rights.

Receive, &c.

(Follow six signatures of Members of the Provisional Government.)

No. 59.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 21.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, February 11, 1868.*

FUAD Pasha informed me this morning that Aali Pasha having represented that the object of his mission to Crete being fulfilled by the completion of the Regulations for the future government of the Island, and it being evident that the effects which are hoped for from them must be some time before they are visible, it had become unnecessary for him to prolong his stay.

The matter having been taken into consideration by the Council, it has been resolved, with the Sultan's approbation, that a vessel shall be dispatched to-morrow to convey the Grand Vizier back to Constantinople.

I told his Highness that I agreed with him in doubting whether any good would result from Aali Pasha remaining in Crete, but that I hoped the moment of his return would be thought the right one for nominating a Christian Governor-General.

The recent accounts from the island, I said, not only did not give indication that the work of pacification had progressed, but were, on the contrary, less favourable than those of six weeks ago, and I could not forbear from expressing surprise that the Government should so long have declined to avail themselves of the most powerful means they possessed of contenting the people by the appointment of a Christian Government.

I added that although Her Majesty's Government had no wish to obtrude advice if it was not wanted, your Lordship had quite recently again conveyed to me the hope that the measure might not be delayed.

There was, I said, no difference of opinion on the matter among the real friends of Turkey, although some among them were now beginning to ask whether it was certain the same beneficial results from it could be calculated on which it would undoubtedly have insured a short time ago.

It was not to be expected that Fuad Pasha would commit himself before the arrival of the Grand Vizier.

The Grand Vizier, however, was confident that it is only kept alive by the expectation of there being a European war in the spring, and entertains no doubt that if this hope is found to be illusory the remains of the insurrection will soon die out.

His Highness has sent up a petition from 500 heads of families, expressing their wish of having their families sent back to them from Greece.

This petition will be made known to the Greek Government, and Fuad Pasha hopes the Governments of Her Majesty and of France may support it at Athens.

I reminded Fuad Pasha that there had just been a change of Government at Athens in a moderate sense, and that it would not be expedient, before the new elections have taken place, to press it too much to take any step greatly at variance with the prevailing temper of the country.

No. 60.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February 10, 1868.*

IN continuation of my last Report (January 29th), I have the honour to state that Server Effendi has returned from Retimo, after having made an inquiry and taken depositions on the subject of the late outrages at Atzipopoulo and Galo. A Report has since been presented to the Grand Vizier by Server Effendi, by which it would appear that

several deliberate murders have been committed by Cretan Turks at those two villages soon after the insurgent raid.

Adverting to the other occurrence, at Gazi, I have further to report that Her Majesty's gunboat "Tyrian" reached Megalo-Kastron at a very opportune moment, on the 23rd ultimo; and two days after the "Salamandre," also the "Alexander Newsky" (with Rear-Admiral Boutakoff), followed. The presence of Her Majesty's ship, I am convinced, not only reassured the comparatively small Christian population in Megalo-Kastron, but also operated as an effectual check against any premeditated outbreak on the part of fanatical Cretan Turks. Thus, Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino informed me that the three days of Bairam passed off without the least disturbance, and Pertev Pasha, the Governor, appeared to derive some confidence from the fact of a British and a French ship having come; and his Excellency's order that no fire-arms should be discharged within the town during Bairam—albeit an infringement of time-revered custom—was strictly obeyed.

The "Enossis" came to Sissi, in Mirabello, on the 26th ultimo; to Phineka, in Ayios-Vassilios, on the 1st instant; and at both places was able to complete her operations.

Some skirmishing has been taking place during last week in Apokorona and Kissamos Districts, between the insurgents and the troops. Several Turkish wounded have been brought to Canea. One of the insurgent captains, Gogonis, has been wounded in the shoulder.

Her Majesty's gun-boat "Tyrian," having just been relieved by the "Trinculo," sailed for Malta this morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 61.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 27.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, February 17, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a petition addressed to the Sultan, and bearing above five hundred signatures of Christian Cretans, said to be heads of families, requesting that their wives and families who had been taken to Greece might be restored to them.

I am unable to express an opinion with regard to the authenticity of these signatures; and although I have informed Mr. Consul Dickson I should be glad to know anything he may learn with respect to them, I do not expect him to be able to obtain information sufficiently free from party-colouring to be received with confidence.

It will not have escaped your Lordship's observation that the accounts of one of the recent encounters dwell upon the barbarity of the Turkish troops in having wounded and maltreated some harmless Christians; while the fact that the affair originated by the Christians cutting off the heads of twenty Turks engaged in collecting firewood is mentioned without comment or blame.

Trustworthy accounts of what is going on in Crete are not to be found on the one side or on the other.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 61.

Petition to the Sultan, signed by upwards of Five Hundred Cretans, soliciting the Return of their Families from Greece.

A Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan Abdul Aziz Khan.

Sire,

LE peuple Crétois, quoiqu'il ait eu toujours le malheur d'avoir une mauvaise renommée à cause de son ignorance et des actes irréfléchis auxquels il s'est laissé entraîner de temps en temps, néanmoins ce peuple, Sire, a aussi la qualité de ne point rester insensible à ce qui est bon et utile lorsque le voile de la duperie, venant à disparaître de ses yeux, remplace un premier entraînement.

Dans les circonstances actuelles, ce peuple, repenti du passé et regrettant d'avoir été trompé par la malveillance qui a trop influencé les habitants de cette île, ce peuple désire

maintenant du fond de son âme la solution aussi promptement que possible d'une question qui désole la population.

En conséquence, les soussignés, représentants de ce peuple, sujets dévoués de Sa Majesté Impériale, s'empressent, par la présente humble pétition, d'invoquer sa clémence afin que, dans sa haute bienveillance et dans l'intérêt qu'elle nourrit pour le bien-être et le soulagement de nos maux, elle daigne avoir pitié aussi de nos familles dispersées dans l'étranger. Il est notoire que ces malheureuses familles ont subi, malgré elles, le lot du plus fort; qu'elles se sont séparées de nous, en grande partie à notre insu et qu'elles se sont embarquées sur des bâtiments des Puissances étrangères, sans trop savoir ni ce qu'elles faisaient ni où elles allaient. Mais, Sire, nul n'est coupable contre sa volonté.

Nous supplions donc votre Majesté Impériale qu'elle veuille bien ordonner le prompt retour de nos familles dans leur patrie, de la manière qu'elle trouverait juste, avant l'arrivée de l'hiver qui rendrait difficile l'exécution de cette mesure et nous vous en devrons, Sire, une reconnaissance éternelle.

Persuadés que notre humble supplique sera accueillie favorablement, nous avons l'honneur d'être avec le plus profond respect et dévouement, &c.

La Canée, commencée le 8 Novembre et terminée le 28 Décembre, 1867.

(Suivent les signatures.)

No. 62.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 2.)

My Lord, *Athens, February* 22, 1868.

IN the course of an interview which I had yesterday with M. Delyanni, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, he mentioned that he had received a most distressing account from the Greek Consul at Canea of the condition of a body of Cretans who, to the number of from 2,000 to 3,000, are encamped at a place called Limni, in the Province of Agios Vasileios, on the south coast of Crete, in the hope that some vessel of war will come to their assistance.

M. Delyanni states that these unfortunate people are reduced to the utmost misery by hunger and exposure, and that upwards of 180 bodies had been found in the vicinity of the encampment of persons who had died from the effects of the cold, aggravated by want. As I have noticed that M. Saccopoulos, the Greek Consul at Canea, is not usually given to exaggeration in his reports, I am inclined to believe in the truth of what he has told his Government in the present instance.

The Russian squadron has apparently given up transporting refugees to Greece, and it is scarcely to be expected either that the Turks will go to the assistance of these poor people, or that, were they to do so, the Cretans would trust themselves to their protection. There is every reason to fear, therefore, that the greater part of them will gradually perish.

Photiades Bey has at last received a despatch from his Government inclosing a printed copy of the petition from 500 Cretan heads of families mentioned in Mr. Elliot's despatch to your Lordship of the 11th instant. He is directed to communicate the petition to the Greek Government, and to request their assistance in searching for the families in question, and in arranging for their being sent home at the expense of the Porte.

I have not as yet heard what answer has been returned by the Greek Government to this application, but I have very little doubt that M. Delyanni will receive the communication civilly, will promise to make inquiries, and that eventually the Turkish Minister will be told that none of the Cretans now in Greece have the least intention of returning to their homes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 63.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 4.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 15, 1868.

THE Provisional Government have forwarded to the Consuls two circulars, dated respectively from Eklia, in St. Vassili, the 1st and 8th instant. The former document specifies all the skirmishes that have occurred since the Grand Vizier's arrival, beginning from the affair at Zourva, in Kydonia district, and ending with that at Gazi, near Megalo-Kastron; that the Cretan population, dissatisfied with the Vizirial Proclamation of the $\frac{4}{16}$th November last, continue to resist, and to give proofs of their constancy in carrying out the object of the insurrection; that the insurgents have now assumed the offensive, and no longer act only on the defensive; that the insurrection can be maintained alive until the spring, when it will acquire fresh stimulus, and afford the Cretans another opportunity of displaying their courage and perseverance; that the success which has hitherto attended the cause of the Hellenic Cretans tends all the more to undo the work of the Grand Vizier, and render nugatory all the measures resulting from his Highness' mission to Crete; that the Cretan Turks, having held counsel together upon the present crisis, and how they may alleviate the miseries of their condition, and otherwise improve their prospects, show little regard for their Government; that their desire is to see the island pacified, little caring what its future administration may be. Accordingly, the Provisional Government call upon their Mussulman fellow-subjects, by a printed Proclamation (No. 1,790), to co-operate with the Christians in giving expression to an identical vote upon the future Government of Crete.

In the other circular above referred to, the Provisional Government recapitulates the observations upon the late insurgent raids, both at Gazi and at Atzipopoulo, and Galo, the former led by Coracos, the latter by Khionudaki; the outrages committed by Cretan Turks upon defenceless Christians by way of retaliation; that the Mussulmans are meditating a general massacre of all the Christian inhabitants in the fortresses and environs; that Proclamations have been recently distributed by native Mussulmans invoking the aid of their co-religionists in other countries in defence of their faith, which is in danger; that the Provisional Government appeals to the solicitude of the foreign Powers, in order that such a catastrophe as that now contemplated may be averted in time; and therefore the Provisional Government disclaims all responsibility if any foul blot should impress itself upon the annals of the nineteenth century—such an outrage to civilization and humanity as befel Jeddah and Syria.

Inclosed is a copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Calocherino, reporting that several of the leading native Turks have been arrested in consequence of their having addressed a petition to the Sultan complaining of the conduct of the local authorities, and also because of misdeeds committed by the former. Mr. Calocherino further remarks upon the continued disturbed state of Candia Province.

Some eight persons have just been captured by Zaptiehs in the neighbourhood of Alikiano and Kissamos, and since conveyed to Canea. One is a Sphakian Chief, and was caught in the act of sheep-stealing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Vice-Consul Calocherino to Consul Dickson.

Sir, *Candia, Crete, February* 10, 1868.

THE apprehensions which were felt in this town, as I had the honour to report to you in my despatch of the 20th ultimo, have not proved, unhappily, void of foundation, by the arrest last week of the following Cretan Mussulmans, *i.e.*:—Mustapha Papuzalaki, Achmet Khanioti, Abduramanali, Ibrahim Gialia, Iselepiaga, Agadaki, Ali Bey Zisdaraki (who had lately destroyed an entire Christian village called Silamos, and its church, near his property of the same name), and Hallil Shesh,—all being influential personages over the Mussulman populace, and whose misdeeds are very well known. It is, indeed, very painful to observe the miserable state of the number of poor Mussulmans as well as Christians in this town, and especially in the environs outside the fortress. The relief afforded up to the present time by the authorities has not been sufficient.

The local authorities have now prohibited the conveyance of the least quantity of

provisions to the villages; on the other hand, no one is allowed to leave the island with his family, and as this town is quite full of people, there is no room for more to come and remain inside. Taking all this into consideration, I am afraid we shall hear very soon of many having died by starvation in the villages. It is already reported here and confirmed that in Calessa, a village of Malevisi, a woman named Agapi died on the 8th instant from starvation, leaving five children.

Many instances of disorder outside of the town, and especially in the village Vassilies, of Temenos, have again taken place. A general complaint is heard from Greek villagers coming to town, being struck, wounded, and robbed in the roads by the Bashi-Bazouks; and, unfortunately, the Government cannot prevent such disorders, as it is very difficult to keep a guard over the roads by regular soldiers.

It is stated that the Russian frigate "Alexander Newsky" embarked all the insurgents that were wounded in the affair at Gazi, at St. Pelagia, on the 26th ultimo.

It is very displeasing to see the numerous loads of wood cut from fruit-trees, especially from olive-trees, which the Mussulmans are daily bringing into town.

The Imperial troops cantoned at St. Varvara have lately returned to the villages Daphnes and Siva.

Yesterday and to-day numbers of troops and Bashi-Bazouks have gone out of town through the gates Canea, Lazareto, and Kenuryia. It is stated they were going to Calessa and other villages.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. A. CALOCHERINO.

No. 64.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 6.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, February* 20, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a report published in the "Turquie" newspaper, of a Commission which had examined into the cases of the Cretans who were said to have been wounded by the Turks, and to have taken refuge in the house of the Russian Vice-Consul at Candia.

According to their report, the injuries appear to have sunk down to a few unimportant bruises, while plasters have been stuck over places where there were no wounds at all.

Inclosure in No. 64.

Extract from "La Turquie" of February 19, 1868.

Correspondance Particulière de "La Turquie."

La Canée, le 13 *Février*, 1868.

J'AI à vous entretenir tout d'abord d'un fait extrêmement grave, et que j'hésiterais à vous relater si je n'avais pas en ma possession ce que l'on appelle en justice le corps même du délit.

A plusieurs reprises, les troupes Impériales avaient rencontré, parmi les bagages abandonnés par les insurgés, des caisses contenant des quantités très-considérables de strychnine et de phlomos. Tout d'abord la pensée des chefs et des médecins se porta sur l'empoisonnement comme un auxiliaire adopté par l'insurrection. Mais, comme aucune observation positive ne vint confirmer, depuis ces premières appréhensions, les soupçons s'endormirent, et, avec l'insouciance qui prévaut en toutes choses, on négligea de prendre les mesures de surveillance et de précaution commandées en pareil cas. Mais voici qu'il est arrivé à la connaissance positive du Gouvernement une série de témoignages et de documents d'où résulte que le Comité Hellénique, siégeant à Athènes, a ordonné d'empoisonner les sources et les puits de la Crète à l'aide du phlomos et de la strychnine, et que des caisses, contenant ces matières, ont été expédiées par "l'Arcadi" et "l'Enossis," mais surtout par "l'Arcadi." D'après les instructions fournies par le Comité, le phlomos, qui possède à un puissant degré des qualités purgatives dont les causes échappent à l'observation médicale, est employé, mêlé à de la strychnine. Voici comment: On creuse profondément les abords des sources pour enfouir des quantités considérables des poisons sus-indiqués; puis on recouvre le dépôt de sable et de pierres, de façon à tromper la perspicacité la plus exercée; l'infiltration est ménagée de façon à saturer l'eau des matières empoisonnées. Cette opération a eu lieu sur une grande échelle, notamment dans les

districts de Selimno, de Sphakia, et d'Apocorona, où les sources sont assez faibles pour assurer le succès. C'est ce qui explique l'épidémie dyssentérique dont les troupes ont été atteintes dans ce district—épidémie qui se renouvelle chaque fois qu'elles ont à parcourir certaines localités, surtout à l'époque des fortes chaleurs, lorsque les eaux diminuent et ne se renouvellent plus dans les bassins naturels où elles viennent s'endormir. Je ne sais quel usage le Gouvernement se décidera à faire des renseignements qui lui sont parvenus, et dont la gravité s'accroît de l'importance des personnes compromises, parmi lesquelles des employés à son service. Il me suffit de constater la valeur des moyens moraux célébrés par le Cabinet Coumoundouros et employés par le Comité Hellénique, et de les livrer à la vindicte publique. Quand je signalais la connexité qui relie l'insurrection Crétoise aux menées révolutionnaires dont Garibaldi est l'instrument et Mazzini le chef, je ne m'attendais pas à tomber aussi juste. Qui pourrait mettre en doute la parenté du phlomos Hellénique avec les bombes d'Orsini ?

Ce n'est pas tout, car tout s'enchaîne dans ce bas monde, et les responsabilités encourues entraînent quelquefois la plus dangereuse complicité. Ce fameux sauvetage des familles Crétoises, invoqué au nom de l'humanité, n'est plus, d'après la source authentique d'où je tire mes renseignements, qu'une conséquence de l'empoisonnement de l'armée Impériale. Malgré les précautions prises par les chefs insurgés pour mettre en interdit les eaux de certaines localités, il arrivait fréquemment que des femmes et des enfants fussent victimes du système poursuivi. C'est alors qu'on prit le parti de refouler tous les non-combattants sur les plages, et d'implorer l'assistance de l'Europe pour leur transport en Grèce. Gageons que les Puissances auraient montré moins d'empressement à envoyer leurs navires si elles se fussent doutées du joli rôle que leur assignait dans le drame Crétois le Comité d'Athènes !

Ne croyez pas que j'invente au moins ; ce récit appartiendra un jour à l'histoire de l'insurrection Crétoise. Vous verrez d'ailleurs combien sera grand l'embarras du Comité d'Athènes à se tirer de cette affaire maintenant qu'il peut supposer avec raison que le secret de ses résolutions est mal gardé.

Immédiatement après l'affaire de Candie, nous avons eu l'affaire de Rethymo. Une enquête sérieuse ordonnée par le Grand Vézir, et confiée à Server Effendi, a amené les mêmes constatations. Des insurgés étaient descendus de la montagne, et avaient massacré les Musulmans inoffensifs. Des Musulmans exaspérés poursuivirent les insurgés, et réussirent à en tuer quelques-uns. Plaintes à l'Amiral Boutacoff, qui se trouvait à la Sude avec sa frégate. Bien entendu, l'Amiral, dont la mission d'humanité n'a en vue que les Chrétiens, n'a pas manqué de crier à la barbarie Musulmane.

Il faudrait pourtant s'entendre. Sans me piquer de pousser aussi loin le sentiment d'humanité que la politique Russe—en Crète—je réprouve les atrocités, quels qu'en soient les auteurs, mais je n'admets pas que la guerre ne soit pas la guerre, et que l'une des parties belligérantes revendique une sorte de droit d'assurance entre les risques de la guerre. Or, ainsi que j'ai été à même de la constater *de visu* à Candie, on a flétri les Musulmans pour avoir donné des coups de bâton à des Chrétiens, et on a passé sous silence la provocation de ce fait—c'est-à-dire, l'égorgement et la mutilation de Musulmans inoffensifs par des Chrétiens quelques instants auparavant. Que les insurgés livrent un combat, et aussitôt leurs compagnons tués se transforment en villageois paisibles tombés sous les coups de fanatisme Musulman. De pareilles allégations ne sont pas soutenables devant des témoins impartiaux. Et puisque j'ai prononcé le mot de fanatisme : ouvrez un journal Grec ; qu'y trouverez-vous ? Les prédications les plus fanatiques contre la religion Musulmane ; la perpétuelle antithèse de l'Evangile et du Coran, du Croissant et de la Croix ; un appel aux Chrétiens d'Europe contre les disciples du Prophète ; une invitation aux Croisades, jusqu'aux femmes qui s'en mêlent, et qui lancent des proclamations au nom de la Vierge.

Une nouvelle importante pour terminer : une reconnaissance militaire ayant été ordonné par Mehmed Ali Pacha, commandant des troupes dans l'Apocorona, il s'ensuivit un léger engagement avec la bande de Gogonis. J'apprends de source positive que ce chef a été mortellement atteint d'une balle dans le flanc et transporté à Assigonia sur les confins de l'Apocorona et de Sphakia.

P.S.—Je joins à ma lettre deux pièces intéressantes :—1. Le procès-verbal de la visite des dix-sept individus blessés par des Musulmans à la suite du massacre et des mutilations dont je vous ai entretenu dans mes dernières correspondances. 2. La traduction de la déposition d'un insurgé devant la Commission d'Enquête chargée d'l'interroger.

Ces pièces parlent d'elles-mêmes Je ne sache pas d'éloquence plus grande que celle des faits. Pourtant vous remarquerez que la question Crétoise ne dure que parce qu'il plaît aux Gouvernements Occidentaux de la faire durer.

(Copie.)

Nous Soussignés avons été constitués en Commission à l'effet de constater la vérité concernant les dix-sept individus Chrétiens, dont les noms sont mentionnés dans la liste ci-annexée, et qui, prétendant avoir été blessés près de Candie durant le combat d'Armyro (le 25 Ramazan, 1284), s'étaient réfugiés au Vice-Consulat de Russie à Candie sous le prétexte de se faire guérir ; les individus en question ayant demandé, à la date du 2 Chewal, l'assistance du Gouvernement Impérial pour retourner à leurs villages, en conséquence, nous avons procédé à l'examen des personnes susénoncées et avons trouvé trois d'entre elles portant des traces de coups ; deux legèrement blessées antérieurement au combat d'Armyro ; une légèrement blessée trois jours après le combat en question, une autre ne portant que la trace d'une légère blessure. Quant aux dix autres personnes, nous n'avons trouvé sur elles aucune trace de coups ou de blessures quelconques.

En outre, il a été constaté que les lésions observées ne provenaient point d'instruments tranchants ou contondants, qu'elles n'avaient occasionné aucune incapacité de travail, et que ces personnes n'ayant pas eu recours à l'autorité locale le jour même de l'accident, il devenait impossible d'affirmer qu'elles eussent reçu ces blessures ce jour même.

Les individus en question ont déclaré aussi que M. Mitchotaki (le Vice-Consul de Russie à Candie) avait fait appliquer des bandelettes de diachylon sur la tête de cinq d'entre eux par un médecin inconnu, et avait fait mettre des sangsues sur les bras de deux autres.

Ayant fait enlever ces appareils nous avons constaté qu'ils ne recouvraient aucune blessure, d'où nous concluons qu'ils ont été placés uniquement pour la montre et pour tromper les Commandants des navires étrangers.

Suivent les signatures :

Le Dr. Mehmet Rachit, *Colonel.*
Le Dr. Ahmet, *Lieutenant-Colonel.*
Le Dr. Osman, *Id.*
Le Dr. Matcovich, *Id.*
Le Vicaire de l'Archevêque de Crète.
Moustafa Bey, *Caïmacam de Pedia.*
Iconomides Bey, *Caïmacam de Maléviri.*
L'Evêque du District de Riso.
Le Dr. Alexandre, *Major.*
Ibraim Rahmi, *Conseiller du Caïmacam de Maléviri.*
Ibraim Chakin, *Membre du Conseil de Candie.*
Essad, *Président du Tribunal Criminel.*
Le Chirurgien-en-chef, Major Ahmet.
Ibraim Melek, *Membre du Tribunal Criminel.*
George Andrea Marcaki, *Id.*
Le Médecin Civil, *Id.*
P. Corpi, *Interprète de l'Autorité Locale.*
Hassan Kiamil, *Membre du Tribunal Criminel.*

Déposition d'un Insurgé fait Prisonnier dans l'Apocorona.

Je me nomme Sofokli Tchépétaki, je suis du village Pirgho Psilonéro ; nous sommes trois frères, ma famille se trouve dans le village Thérisso ; les familles de mes deux autres frères sont en Grèce. Depuis le commencement de l'insurrection je suis toujours avec les insurgés, mais je ne fais partie de l'Epitropie, j'ai été simple soldat sous les ordres du chef Hadji Michali, c'est mon frère le capitaine Manoli qui est membre de l'Epitropie de l'Eparchie de Cydonie ; mon autre frère, Strati, est aussi, à l'heure qu'il est, avec les insurgés.

Comme j'ai été simple soldat je ne pus connaître les résolutions de l'Epitropie, car je n'y étais jamais admis ; c'est pourquoi je n'ai rien à vous communiquer concernant cette Epitropie.

L'Assemblée Générale se trouvait il y a cinq jours, à Assighonia, dans le district d'Apocorona ; en ma qualité de simple soldat, les insurgés me chargeaient, toujours, de faire le service dans la patrouille.

Hadji Michali a sous ses ordres tantôt 100, tantôt 200 ou 300 individus. Zimbrakaki a, avec lui, une centaine d'hommes, dont la moitié sont des Crétois, et le reste sont des Hellènes ; le nombre total des insurgés dans tout le district de la Canée s'élève environ à 800 hommes. Il y a six jours, Zimbrakaki se trouvait dans le village Madharò, près de

Kambos; Hadji Michali est du côté de Lakos. Les habitants dont les familles sont parties pour la Grèce désirent que l'insurrection continue; ceux dont les familles se trouvent ici veulent la soumission, mais les insurgés les en empêchent. Des munitions de guerre et des provisions de bouche arrivent, continuellement, aux insurgés, par les corsaires Hellènes; ils ont assez de munitions et d'armes, quelques-uns ont deux fusils. Lorsque les corsaires arrivent et qu'ils débarquent leur cargaison, les capitaines et les autres chefs se rendent à l'endroit indiqué; là, chacun reçoit sa quote-part de munitions, et la fait transporter sur les montagnes, où la répartition est fait entre les individus qui composent sa bande, et tout ce qui reste est caché dans les grottes, d'où on les retire lorsqu'on en a besoin. Lorsque les provisions de bouche sont épuisées et que les insurgés se trouvent très nécessiteux, alors les insurgés vont du côté de Messarà (Sandjak de Candie), d'où ils enlèvent des bœufs et d'autres bestiaux et ils les transportent ensuite dans le district de la Canée. Lorsque ces corsaires retardent d'apporter des provisions, les insurgés volent aux habitants soumis tout ce qu'ils trouvent pour se nourrir.

Lors d'un combat à l'approche des troupes Impériales, si la position où se trouvent les insurgés est inaccessible et montagneuse, nos chefs nous conseillent de résister; si la rencontre a lieu dans une plaine, alors on nous sollicite de partir et de ne pas résister.

Nos chefs reçoivent, régulièrement, des journaux Grecs, mais je ne sais d'où on les leur envoie.

Zimbrakaki est parti de Zourva parcequ'il craignait d'être assassiné par les habitants soumis.

Les chefs indigènes et étrangers, ainsi que les membres des Epitropies, sont engagés, sous serment, de ne rien dire à personne de leurs relations avec la Grèce.

Il y a quelques jours que notre compatriote le nommé Minos Boyadji Oglou (membre du Comité à Syra) est venu de Syra parmi nous, et nous a conseillé de ne pas faire la soumission, attendu que les grandes Puissances ont décidé de soutenir la Grèce afin que l'île soit annexée.

Durant l'été, le Comité Central Crétois d'Athènes envoyait chaque mois 90 Napoléons d'or pour les insurgés du district de la Canée; maintenant que Minos Boyadji Oglou est venu, il a payé 250 napoléons aux chefs du district de la Canée afin d'encourager les habitants à ne pas déposer les armes, et à patienter un certain temps encore en nous assurant que l'annexion aura lieu infailliblement.

No. 65.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 6.)

(Extract.) *Athens, February* 26, 1868.

THE Chancelier of Her Majesty's Consulate at Syra has reported to me that the blockade-runner "Crete," which left Syra on the 21st instant with the usual cargo of ammunition and provisions, and with seventy returning Cretans, including Kostarós Veludachi, President of the so-called General Assembly of Crete, returned to Syra on the 23rd instant, after landing her passengers and cargo at Phinikia, in Agios Vassileios, on the south coast of the island. She received on board ten sick Cretans, and did not fall in with any Turkish cruizer.

Her Captain reported that an engagement took place on the 16th instant at Prosgialò, in Sphakia, between the Turks and the insurgents, the latter being the assailants. The Turks are, of course, as usual, described as having lost about 200 men, whilst the insurgents scarcely suffered at all.

The Russian vessels of war on this station left the Piræus early this morning for the purpose, as I am assured, of taking off the insurgent families encamped at Limni, whose sad plight was adverted to in my despatch of the 22nd instant.

I inclose a translation of a letter which has been addressed to me, as well as to the other heads of Missions here, by Kostarós Veludachi, the Cretan Chief mentioned in an early part of this despatch, forwarding a pamphlet, of which I forward likewise a translated extract, stating that he and his countrymen are prepared to suffer any extremities rather than again submit to the Turkish rule.

Inclosure 1 in No. 65.

M. Veludachi to Mr. Erskine.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Syra, February* $\frac{7}{19}$, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose my photograph, and also a pamphlet addressed to the Cretans, the drawing up of which I entrusted to M. Stelianon A. Stravondi, a young man who has worked for his country in conjunction with me from 1857 to this day, and by which, amongst other things, he places before his countrymen that, unless the much-desired success of their revolution be realized, it will be their sad duty to give up the country to total ruin, rather than again submit to the yoke of Turkey.

Unable to perceive any other mode of settlement of the Cretan question, I myself shall earnestly support this opinion; and, as a last resort, shall be the first to deliver my property—of some value—to the flames and to entire ruin.

Such a step is truly deplorable and painful; but for this unfortunate Christian country —though since 1821, and to this day, blood has been shed, and numerous calamities and sacrifices have been endured—justice does not exist, nor compassion. Even so great an evil as the entire destruction and ruin of the country must be endured in order that no future generation may spring up in Crete to suffer the same hardships which our fathers have suffered and we ourselves suffer: it would certainly have been preferable not to have been born in this world.

Meanwhile, receive, &c.

(Signed) COSTAROS VELUDACHI.

[Inclosure 2 in No. 65.

Précis of a Pamphlet addressed to the Cretans by Stelianon A. Stavrondi.

THE author begins by enumerating the victories gained by the Cretans at Vrisses, Kandano, &c., over the Turkish and Egyptian troops. This, he says, is a sufficient proof of the inability of the Turks to put down a mere handful of Christians, who besides a strong army had to contend with hunger and a severe winter. Such noble conduct obtained for the Cretans the sympathies of England, France, Russia, &c., where funds were collected for their support. Turkey eventually withdrew Mustapha, and sent Omer Pasha, who failed like his predecessor, notwithstanding the strong military and naval forces at his disposal. To these fresh achievements, diplomacy could no longer remain indifferent; convinced of your determination to keep up the struggle as long as a drop of blood remained in your veins, and seeing your wives, children, and old men, perishing most inhumanly by the sword, hunger, cold, and nakedness, the Powers came at last to your rescue and transported them to Greece. After this, convinced of your determination to keep up the struggle, especially after you had placed your families in safety, Turkey decided upon the dispatch of Aali Pasha, the most distinguished of her statesmen. The eyes of the world were fixed upon you, and it was asked, Will they be able to elude the machinations and intrigues of Aali? Will they not be gained over by lavish corruption? Many before you, and who had worked miracles, having succumbed at last to intrigue and gold. Four months have elapsed since the arrival of Aali in Crete, every attempt has been made to bribe your consciences und subdue your aspirations after freedom. The organs of Aali assert that Greece has exhausted her means of supporting your struggle and that your families are dying from hunger and want, but do not believe them.

Your brethren the Greeks from all parts of the world have generously contributed their gold, have sent you corn and other necessaries, and not a few of them have come in person to participate in your struggle. We have apprized the Greek nation that we do not exact for our families which have taken refuge there, and for the continuation of the struggle in Crete, more than she can afford to give, whether it be little or much. We were aware, even before the revolution broke out, that free Greece was neither a strong nor a rich kingdom; even what she has hitherto done has surpassed our expectations. Finally, Turkey seeing that even Aali had failed, has decided to create a Principality in Crete under a Christian Prince. Who is the true Cretan who would accept such an arrangement or anything short of union with Greece? Connected with free Greece by origin, religion language, traditions, and sufferings, it was there we took refuge when in danger and persecuted by the Turkish authorities. It was from Greece we drew all the means for our revolution in which so many have participated. Valiant brethren, we have risen because we could no longer endure the Turkish yoke. We have seen that we have

nothing to hope from the Hatti-Houmayoun, that we cannot trust the promises of Turkey. She has often promised but never fulfilled; in 1858 she gave us privileges but it was not long before she withdrew and violated them; she left us without tribunals, schools, rural banks, &c., and even increased our taxes, though she had promised us exemption.

No. 66.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 15.)

(Extract.) *Constantinople, March* 3, 1868.

THE Grand Vizier returned from Crete on Saturday, and I waited upon his Highness yesterday at his house on the Bosphorus, his town residence having been burnt down a week before his arrival, a misfortune which he only learnt on reaching Constantinople.

Upon a first, and entirely official visit, it was not possible to enter into a close discussion of the state and prospect of things in Crete, but I found Aali Pasha firmly persuaded of the gradual pacification of the island, though the period at which it would be completed will, he says, depend upon the continuance or the cessation of the encouragement given to the insurrection by the exportation of Cretan families in Russian men-of-war.

No. 67.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 15.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 4, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of the Imperial Firman for the re-organization of the Government of Crete, which was promulgated by the Grand Vizier just before his departure from the island.

It embodies the Regulations which I had already forwarded to your Lordship in my despatches of the 15th and 30th December last,* with the addition of those relating to the mode of election, and forms of proceedings of the General Council, of which the attributions and duties were sketched in the Règlement Organique.

The system, though of a complicated character, may be looked upon as offering a large measure of self-government to the inhabitants of the island, although its satisfactory working must depend both upon the choice of the men who are to apply it, and upon the disposition of the population to allow it to work.

There are in Crete two parties which the Turkish Government cannot even attempt to conciliate; those who will be satisfied with nothing short of annexation to Greece, and who, when they had got it, would probably not be better satisfied than the same party appear to be in the Ionian Islands; and those who claim an unlimited power of local self-government.

However desirable it may be that the Cretans should have the utmost liberty in their local administration, the Government were imperatively called upon to take proper precautions to protect the Mussulman minority from being entirely subjected to the Christian majority, and a somewhat complicated system of government thus became a matter of necessity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 67.

Imperial Firman relative to the Reorganization of Crete.

(Traduction.)

A MON Vézir Husseïn Avni Pacha, investi du commandement de mes troupes Impériales en Crète et en même temps du Gouvernement Général de cette île, et décoré de mes Ordres Impériaux de l'Osmanié et du Médjidié de première classe; à Pertew, Moustapha, Sawas et Costaki Pachas, jouissant du rang de Roumélie-beylerbey et Gouverneurs des Arrondissements de Candie, de Réthimo, de Sphakia, et de Lassithe, et aux Sous-Gouverneurs de l'Ile de Créte.

* Nos. 23 and 32.

Les pertes et les souffrances éprouvées par la Crète et qui ont été la triste conséquence des désordres survenus dans cette île ont rempli notre cœur d'affliction. Désirant avant toute chose remédier à ces maux, règler l'administration ultérieure de l'île, et assurer à tous habitants indistinctement le bien-être et la prospérité, sous tous les rapports, nous avons décidé qu'à partir du 1 Mars de l'année prochaine (1868) et pour la durée de deux années consécutives, il sera fait grâce à tous les habitants de l'île de la dîme de tous les produits soumis à cet impôt; qu'à l'expiration de ces deux années de complète exemption de la dîme, il sera perçu, à partir du 1 Mars, 1870, également pendant deux ans en lieu et place de la dîme, une moitié de dîme, soit 5 pour cent, dont le produit doit être affecté aux améliorations qui seront indiquées, comme les plus favorables aux intérêts commerciaux et agricoles de l'île, par l'Assemblée Générale qui, élue par toute la population, doit se réunir chaque année au chef-lieu du vilayet.

Tous nos sujets ayant un égal titre à notre sollicitude, nous avons, en outre, décidé que les habitants Chrétiens de Crète seront exemptés de la contribution pour le rachat du service militaire, aussi longtemps que la population Musulmane de l'île sera exempte de ce service; et qu'il sera donné suite aux vœux exprimés, concernant certains impôts, dans l'adresse présentées par les délégués Musulmans et Chrétiens qui se sont réunis à la Canée, conformément aux dispositions de notre Firman Impérial émané à ce sujet.

Nous avons également décrété les dispositions suivantes formant le Règlement Organique qui se trouve annexé à notre Ordonnance Impériale adressée à notre Grand Vézir, en date du 2 Djémazi-ul-sanié de l'année courante, et qui, revêtu de notre écriture Impériale, a été promulgué dans l'île.

Règlement Organique.*

1. L'Administration Générale de l'Ile de Crète sera confiée à un Vali (Gouverneur-Général) nommé par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, et le commandement des forteresses Impériales, ainsi que des troupes de l'île, à un Commandant-en-chef.

2. Les postes de Vali et de Commandant seront indépendants l'un de l'autre; il appartiendra, toutefois, à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan de réunir, en cas de besoin, les fonctions du Vali à celles du Commandant.

3. Le Vali administre l'île conformément aux lois générales de l'Empire et aux règlements particuliers qui se rapportent à l'île.

Le Vali sera assisté de deux Conseillers nommeés par ordonnance Impériale et choisis, l'un parmi les fonctionnaires Musulmans et l'autre parmi les fonctionnaires Chrétiens de l'Empire.

4. L'île sera divisée en autant de Sandjaks ou Arrondissements qu'il sera nécessaire. Ces Arrondissements seront administrés par des Mutessarifs (Gouverneurs) choisis parmi les fonctionnaires du Gouvernement Impérial; les Gouverneurs seront, moitié des Musulmans et moitié des Chrétiens. Les Gouverneurs Musulmans seront assistés par des Mouavins (Adjoints) Chrétiens et les Gouverneurs Chrétiens par des Mouavins Musulmans, nommés les uns et les autres par le Gouvernement Impérial.

5. Les Sandjacks seront subdivisés en Kazas (Cantons), et les Kazas seront gouvernés par des Caïmacams (Sous-Gouverneurs) choisis et nommés par la Sublime Porte et pris selon le besoin parmi les fonctionnaires Musulmans ou Chrétiens du Gouvernement Impérial. Ces Caïmacams seront assistés par des Mouavins suivant les règles posées ci-dessus.

6. L'administration des finances sera confiée, pour le Gouvernement Général, à un Defterdar (Directeur), pour chaque Sandjack à un Mouassébédji (Sous-Directeur), et pour chaque Kaza à un Mal-Mudiri. Ces diverses fonctions seront dévolues suivant les circonstances à des fonctionnaires Musulmans et Chrétiens.

7. Il y aura un Conseil d'Administration auprès du Gouverneur-Général ainsi que de chacun des Gouverneurs et des Sous-Gouverneurs. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général sera présidé par le Gouverneur-Général, et aura pour membres les deux Conseillers, le Chef de la Magistrature (Mufettichi-Hukkian), le Métropolitain Grec, le Defterdar (Directeur des Finances), les Mektoubdjis (Directeurs des Correspondances), et six autres membres dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens, élus par leurs communautés respectives.

La correspondance officielle dans l'île devant être faite en deux langues, elle sera confiée à deux Mektoubdjis pour le Gouvernement Général, et à deux Bachkiatibs (Directeurs de la Correspondance) pour chaque Sandjack.

8. Le Conseil d'Administration de chaque Sandjack Mixte sera composé, sous la présidence du Gouverneur, du Mouavin, du Juge, de l'Evêque, du Mouassébédji, des

* For Summary of this Paper, see Consul Dickson's despatch of February 22, 1868, page 83.

Directeurs de la Correspondance, et de six membres, trois Chrétiens et trois Musulmans, élus par la population. Dans les Sandjacks exclusivement Chrétiens, ce Conseil sera composé, toujours sous la présidence du Gouverneur, du Mouavin, de l'Evêque, du Mouassébédji, des Directeurs de la Correspondance, et de six membres Chrétiens élus par la population.

Les règles qui précèdent seront également appliquées aux Conseils d'Administration des Kazas.

9. Il sera institué dans le chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général et dans les Sandjacks et les Kazas, des Tribunaux chargés de connaître des procès civils et militaires.

Les Tribunaux du chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général et dans les Sandjacks et Kazas Mixtes seront composés de membres Musulmans et Chrétiens élus par la population. Dans les Sandjacks ou Kazas exclusivement Chrétiens, ces Tribunaux ne seront composés que de Chrétiens.

10. Il y aura au chef-lieu du Gouvernement Général et dans chaque Sandjack Mixte un Tribunal religieux Musulman qui connaîtra des procès entre Musulmans. Chaque commune aura un Conseil des Anciens, et chaque Sandjack une Démogérontie ou Conseil des Anciens, pour chacune des deux communautés Musulmane et Chrétienne.

Les membres de ces Conseils seront élus par leurs justiciables.

11. Tous les procès civils, criminels et commerciaux entre Chrétiens et Musulmans, et toute autre contestation mixte, seront jugés par les Tribunaux Civils et Commerciaux Mixtes. Des règlements spéciaux détermineront la compétence et les attributions de ces Tribunaux religieux Musulmans et des Démogérontes.

12. Il sera institué au centre du Gouvernement Général un Conseil Général élu par la population et dans lequel chaque Kaza sera représenté par deux Délégués; chaque Kaza exclusivement Musulman enverra au Conseil Général des Délégués Musulmans; il en sera de même des Kazas exclusivement Chrétiens; enfin chaque Kaza Mixte sera représenté par un Délégué Musulman.

Le mode d'élection de ces Délégués sera fixé par un règlement spécial.

Ce Conseil, qui se réunira une fois par an, aura pour mission d'étudier les questions relatives aux travaux d'utilité publique, telles que le développement des voies de la communication, la formation de caisses de crédit, et tout ce qui peut servir à favoriser l'agriculture, le commerce et l'industrie, enfin aux moyens de répandre l'instruction publique en ce qui est d'une application générale. Le Gouvernement Impérial allouera, sur les revenus de l'île, des fonds qui seront destinés aux améliorations étudiées et proposées par le Conseil Général et approuvées et décrétées par la Sublime Porte. L'emploi de ces fonds sera placé sous le contrôle du Conseil Général.

13. Les habitants de la Crète ayant été exempts de tout temps de l'impôt direct que toutes les autres Provinces de l'Empire payent à l'Etat, il ne sera perçu dans l'île que la dîme, le droit d'exemption du service militaire, le droit sur les boissons, les droits de douane, et les droits sur le sel et sur le tabac, créés en compensation du dégrèvement des droits de douane, et certains autres droits qui sont payés par les habitants de l'île, comme dans les autres parties de l'Empire, et dont la modification est actuellement à l'étude.

Il ne sera imposé dans l'île aucune autre contribution.

14. L'examen des moyens propres à assurer la perception intégrale des revenus de l'Etat et à fournir à la population de l'île des facilités et des avantages dans le payement des dîmes et de l'impôt militaire sera dévolu au Conseil Général. Le Gouvernement Impérial avisera à l'application de ces améliorations suivant les vœux qui seront exprimés àce sujet par le Conseil Général.

Nous avons enfin revêtu de notre sanction les règlements dont la teneur suit et qui reposent sur les bases indiquées dans le Règlement Organique; ils concernent l'organisation judiciaire et administrative et les finances de l'île.

Règlement Judiciaire.—Organisation de la Justice.

Préambule.

Conformément aux Articles 9, 10, et 11 du Règlement Organique de l'Ile de Crète sanctionné par Sa Majesté le Sultan, les Tribunaux de la loi Musulmane demeurant exclusivement chargés du jugement de certaines contestations spéciales entre Musulmans, les procès au sujet d'intérêts particuliers commerciaux, la poursuite des délits et des crimes, ainsi que toutes les contestations entre Musulmans et Chrétiens, seront dévolus à la compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes établis hiérarchiquement dans les Districts, les

Gouvernements et au siège du Gouvernement Général, ainsi que des Tribunaux de Commerce. En conséquence, le présent Règlement concernant la composition, le mode d'élection, la compétence, le mode d'appel des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts, des Gouvernements, et du Gouvernement Général, les règles applicables aux Tribunaux de Commerce, aux Conseils des Anciens ou Démogérontes des Villages ou des Gouvernements, a été approuvé par Sa Majesté le Sultan.

Chapitre I.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts.*

Article 1. Il y aura un Tribunal Mixte par District.

Art. 2. Il sera composé de un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 3. Les fonctions de Président seront remplies par un Juge qui sera choisi, nommé, révoqué, et rétribué directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 4. Les Juges siégeant au Tribunal Mixte de District seront électifs. Ils seront pris sur les listes dressées par les Sous-Gouverneurs.

Art. 5. A cet effet, le Sous-Gouverneur dressera une liste de tous les habitants mâles établis dans le district agés de 21 ans révolus et qui ne se trouvent pas dans les cas d'incapacité prévus par les Articles suivants.

Art. 6. Seront incapables d'être portés sur la liste dont il est parlé dans l'Article précédent :—1. Ceux qui ne savent ni lire ni écrire. 2. Les domestiques et serviteurs à gages. 3. Ceux à qui l'exercice des droits civils, politiques, ou de famille a été interdit conformément à la Loi Pénale. 4. Les faillis non réhabilités. 5. Ceux qui ne sont pas sains d'esprit. 6. Ceux qui sont en état d'accusation ou de contumace. 7. Ceux qui ont été condamnés à des peines afflictives ou infamantes, ou pour délit de vol, d'escroquerie, abus de confiance, usure, attentat aux mœurs, vagabondage, mendicité, et ceux qui à raison de tout autre délit auront été condamnés à plus d'un an d'emprisonnement.

Art, 7. Seront exclus de la liste tous les fonctionnaires publics chargés d'un service actif, ainsi que les militaires en activité de service.

Art. 8. La liste sera divisée en deux colonnes, dont l'une portera les noms des habitants Musulmans et l'autre ceux des habitants Chrétiens. Elle sera affichée sur la porte des mosquées, des églises, de la résidence du Sous-Gouverneur, et partout où besoin sera.

Art. 9. Pendant les dix jours qui suivront cette publication, tout habitant pourra réclamer soit contre une inscription soit contre une omission en déposant sa réclamation au Conseil d'Administration du District. Cette réclamation sera jugée dans les huit jours sauf recours devant le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement, et au besoin devant le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général. Ces recours successifs, qui, dans tous les cas, devront être jugés dans la huitaine sans frais, seront formés sous peine de déchéance dans les dix jours qui suivront la notification de la décision. Les additions ou retranchements opérés par suite des décisions intervenues seront affichés dans le district, ainsi qu'il a été dit ci-dessus.

Art. 10. Cette liste sera permanente. Tous les ans avant le 1 Novembre elle sera rectifiée par le Gouverneur du District qui retranchera les habitants décédés ou devenus incapables et ajoutera ceux qui auront acquis dans l'intervalle les conditions exigées.

Art. 11. Dans la première semaine du mois de Janvier de chaque année, le Sous-Gouverneur invitera les habitants Musulmans et Chrétiens de chaque District à choisir sur les listes ainsi dressées les quatre personnes qui devront siéger comme Juges au Tribunal Mixte. Dans les Districts Mixtes, les habitants Musulmans éliront deux membres Musulmans parmi ceux inscrits sur la liste ; les habitants Chrétiens éliront également deux membres Chrétiens. Dans les Districts habités exclusivement par des Chrétiens ou des Musulmans, tous les quatre membres seront Chrétiens ou Musulmans, selon le cas. Il sera dressé procès-verbal régulier de l'élection, lequel sera signé par le Sous-Gouverneur. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal pour être gardée aux archives.

Art. 12. Chaque Juge du Tribunal Mixte ainsi élu recevra pour l'année pour laquelle il sera en exercice une rétribution fixée à 3,000 piastres. Cette rétribution sera divisée en autant de portions égales qu'il y aura de séances dans l'année. Les jours et heures des séances seront fixés par le Président du Tribunal dès le commencement de l'année dans un réglement approuvé par le Président du Tribunal qui connaîtra de l'affaire. La portion afférente aux Juges absents d'une séance, sans excuse valable, sera retenue et partagée entre les Juges présents.

Art. 13. La direction des débats appartiendra exclusivement au Président. C'est à lui qu'il appartiendra également de déclarer la clôture des débats, de poser aux Juges les questions de droit ou de fait, auxquelles questions les Juges seront tenus de répondre par oui ou par non, de recueillir les voix, de faire l'application de la loi, de prononcer les jugements, de les motiver, d'en surveiller la rédaction et l'expédition.

Chapitre II.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernements.*

Art. 14. Il y aura un Tribunal Mixte par Gouvernement.

Art. 15. Le Tribunal sera composé d'un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 16. Le Président du Tribunal de Gouvernement sera choisi, nommé, révoqué et rétribué directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 17. Les Juges des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement seront électifs ; ils seront choisis de la manière ci-après.

Art. 18. Chaque District déléguera tous les ans, auprès du Gouverneur, deux Chrétiens et deux Musulmans, chargés de désigner sur les listes dressées pour tous les Districts de l'île, ainsi qu'il a été expliqué dans les Articles 4 et 5 ci-dessus, les personnes qui devront siéger comme Juges auprès du Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement.

Art. 19. Les Délégués Musulmans éliront à la pluralité des voix les Juges Musulmans. Les Délégués Chrétiens éliront également à la pluralité des voix les Juges Chrétiens. La durée des fonctions de ces Juges sera de deux ans. A la fin de la première année, à dater de la mise à exécution de la présente loi, le sort décidera lesquels des deux Juges Chrétiens et des deux Juges Musulmans seront remplacés. Les années suivantes, il y aura toujours deux Juges sortants, un Musulman et un Chrétien, qui auront exercé leurs fonctions pendant deux ans et qui devront être remplacés par ceux élus par l'Assemblée des Délégués dont il a été parlé ci-dessus.

Art. 20. Dans les Gouvernements dont la population sera exclusivement Musulmane ou Chrétienne les Juges du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement seront aussi, tous les quatre, Musulmans ou Chrétiens.

Il sera dressé dans tous les cas procès-verbal régulier de leur élection, lequel procès verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement pour être gardée aux archives.

Art. 21. Chaque Juge du Tribunal de Gouvernement ainsi élu recevra pour l'année pour laquelle il sera en exercice, une rétribution fixée à 6,000 piastres. Cette rétribution sera divisée en autant de portions égales qu'il y aura de séances dans l'année. Les jours et heures des séances seront fixés par le Président du Tribunal dès le commencement de l'année dans un réglement approuvé par le Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général. La portion afférente aux Juges absents d'une séance, sans excuse valable, sera retenue et partagée entre les Juges présents.

Art. 22. Les dispositions de l'Article 12, concernant les attributions, les droits et les devoirs des Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de districts, seront également applicables aux Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement.

Chapitre III.—*De la Composition du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.*

Art. 23. Le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général sera établi au siège du susdit Gouvernement.

Art. 24. Le susdit Tribunal sera composé d'un Président et de quatre Juges.

Art. 25. Les fonctions de Président seront remplies par un Juge choisi, nommé, révoqué et rétribué directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 26. Les quatres Juges seront électifs.

Art. 27. Chaque District déléguéra tous les ans auprès du Gouverneur-Général deux Musulmans et deux Chrétiens, chargées de désigner en assemblée commune, à la pluralité absolu des voix, un Juge Musulman et un Juge Chrétien appelés à remplacer le Juge Musulman ou le Juge Chrétien sortant.

La durée des fonctions des Juges du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général est de quatre ans. A la fin de la première année de la mise à exécution de la présente Loi, le sort désignera lequel des quatres Juges primitivement élus sera remplacé. Si le premier Juge sortant est un Chrétien, le Juge sortant de l'année suivante sera tiré au sort parmi les deux Juges Musulmans et *vice versâ*.

Il sera ainsi procédé annuellement au remplacement alternatif d'un Juge Musulman et d'un Juge Chrétien. A la fin de la deuxième année le sort désignera lesquels des deux Chrétiens ou des deux Musulmans restant devra être remplacé. Après la deuxième année, le principe du remplacement alternatif d'un Musulman et d'un Chrétien dispensera d'avoir recours au sort.

Art. 28. Il sera dressé procès-verbal régulier de l'élection, lequel procès-verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur-Général. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général pour être gardée aux archives.

Art. 29. Les Juges du susdit Tribunal recevront pendant tout le temps qu'ils resteront en exercice une rétribution annuelle de 9,000 piastres.

Art. 30. Un règlement du Président du susdit Tribunal déterminera les jours et heures des séances.

Art. 31. Les dispositions de l'Article 12, commune aux Présidents des Tribunaux Mixtes de District et de Gouvernement, seront également applicables au Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre IV.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.*

Art. 32. En attendant la rédaction et la publication d'un code de procédure civile et d'un code d'instruction criminelle, on se conformera pour le règlement de la compétence générale et spéciale des divers Tribunaux aux principes suivants :—

Art. 33. Les Tribunaux Mixtes de District connaîtront au civil entre personnes de toute religion.

En dernier ressort—

De toutes actions qui ont pour objet l'exécution d'une obligation, ou un meuble dont la valeur ne dépasse pas 500 piastres ou un immeuble de 50 piastres de rente.

A charge d'appel—

De ces mêmes actions jusqu'à la valeur de 1,000 piastres ou de 100 piastres de rente.

Ils connaîtront en outre sans appel jusqu'à la valeur de 1,000 piastres et à charge d'appel à quelques sommes qu'elles s'élèvent—

1. De toutes actions entre propriétaire et locataire ou fermier, entre le maître et les gens de service, domestiques ou ouvriers, lorsque ces actions ont leur source dans le contrat de louage.

2. Des actions pour dommages faits aux champs, fruits et récoltes, arbres, haies, fossés, canaux, maisons et autres propriétés, lorsque les droits de propriété ne sont pas contestés.

3. Des actions en bornage, lorsque la propriété ou les titres qui l'établissent ne sont pas contestés.

4. Des actions relatives aux constructions et aux travaux à faire sur un mur dont la mitoyenneté n'est pas contestée.

5. De toutes actions possessoires.

6. Des actions civiles pour diffamation verbale ou pour injures publiques ou non publiques verbales ou par écrit autrement que par la voie de la presse.

7. Des mêmes actions pour rixes ou voies de fait.

Art. 34. Si la demande reconventionnelle a pour objet des dommages intérêts fondés exclusivement sur la demande principale elle-même, le Tribunal Mixte de District est compétent pour en connaître à quelque somme qu'ils s'élèvent ; dans le cas contraire, il ne sera nullement dérogé, en ce qui concerne la demande reconventionnelle, aux règles générales sur la compétence. Quant aux demandes réunies dans une même instance par le même demandeur, on calculera l'importance des demandes cumulées pour apprécier le taux de la compétence.

Art. 35. La valeur des meubles ou immeubles dont il a été parlé à l'Article 32 sera déterminée en cas de contestation par une expertise ordonnée par le Tribunal saisi de l'appel.

Art. 36. Le Tribunal Mixte de District jugera au pénal toutes les infractions que la loi pénale qualifie de contravention, et punit de peines de simple police.

Chapitre V.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernements.*

Art. 37. Le Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement connaîtra—

Au Civil :—

1. Des appels des Tribunaux Mixtes de District dans tous les cas où l'appel en est recevable.

2. De toutes les actions personnelles ou immobilières qui ne sont pas attribuées par un texte spécial de loi à quelque autre Tribunal, et cela en dernier ressort jusqu'à la valeur de 5,000 piastres ou de 500 piastres de rente.

Art. 38. *Au Pénal :—*

3. Des appels des jugements rendus par les Tribunaux de District en matière de contravention de simple police ;

4. Des infractions que la loi pénale qualifie de délits, et punit de peines correctionnelles.

Chapitre VI.—*De la Compétence Générale du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.*

Art. 39. Le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général connaîtra—

Au Civil :—

1. Des appels des Tribunaux de Commerce de l'île dans les cas où l'appel en est recevable conformément aux dispositions du Code de Commerce Ottoman.

2. Des appels des Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement dans les cas où l'appel en est recevable.

Au Pénal :—

3. Des appels des jugements rendus par les Tribunaux Mixtes de Gouvernement en matière de délits.

4. Des infractions auxquelles la loi pénale donne la qualification de crimes, et qu'elle punit de peines afflictives et infamantes.

Chapitre VII.—*De la Compétence Spéciale des Tribunaux Mixtes.*

Art. 40. En matière personnelle le défendeur sera assigné devant le Tribunal de son domicile ; s'il n'a pas de domicile, devant le Tribunal de sa résidence. S'il y a plusieurs défendeurs, devant le Tribunal du domicile de l'un d'eux au choix du demandeur ;

En matière réelle, devant le Tribunal de la situation de l'objet litigieux ;

En matière de société, tant qu'elle existe, devant le Tribunal du lieu où elle est établie ;

En matière de succession, sur les demandes qui seraient intentées par des créanciers du défunt avant le partage, devant le Tribunal du lieu où la succession est ouverte ;

En matière de garantie, devant le Juge où la demande originaire sera pendante ;

Enfin, devant le Tribunal de la situation de l'objet litigieux lorsqu'il s'agira des actions énumérées dans les alinéas 1 à 5 de l'Article 32.

Art. 41. Chaque Tribunal Mixte de District sera exclusivement compétent pour juger les contraventions commises dans les limites de sa circonscription territoriale.

Si le fait dont il est saisi est un délit qui emporte une peine correctionnelle ou plus forte, le Tribunal renverra les parties devant les autorités compétentes.

Tout Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement sera exclusivement compétent pour juger les délits commis dans les limites de sa circonscription territoriale.

Si le fait dont il est saisi n'est qu'une contravention il appliquera la peine, et statuera s'il y a lieu sur les dommages-intérêts.

Si le fait est de nature à mériter une peine afflictive le Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement renverra le prévenu devant le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.

Si le fait dont le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement-Général est saisi, est un délit ou une simple contravention, il appliquera la loi quant à la peine et pourra envoyer devant le Tribunal compétent pour la fixation des dommages-intérêts s'il y a lieu.

Dans les cas de renvoi d'un Tribunal à un autre, ainsi qu'il vient d'être dit, les procès-verbaux, ainsi que les actes d'interrogatoire, ainsi que tous les autres actes, documents, objets y relatifs, seront renvoyés devant le Tribunal appelé à statuer définitivement.

Chapitre VIII.—*Dispositions Communes aux Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.*

Art. 42. Les membres des divers Tribunaux Mixtes seront indéfiniment rééligibles.

Art. 43. Il sera nommé auprès de chaque Tribunal Mixte un nombre suffisant de greffiers et d'huissiers, conformément aux dispositions d'un réglement spécial.

Art. 44. La grande majorité des habitants Chrétiens et Musulmans de l'Ile de Crète ne connaissant que la langue Grecque, les sentences des Tribunaux Mixtes seront rédigées en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 45. Les requêtes pourront être présentées directement au Tribunal compétent, sans qu'il soit nécessaire que l'autorité administrative en décrète le renvoi.

Art. 46. Les Tribunaux Mixtes connaîtront de toutes les difficultés qui surgiront au sujet de l'exécution de leurs sentences, ainsi que de celles émanées des Conseils des Anciens et des Tribunaux de Commerce placés dans les limites de leur juridiction territoriale.

Art. 47. Un Tarif spécial déterminera les frais de justice devant les Tribunaux Mixtes des divers ordres.

Art. 48. L'appel sera suspensif, sauf les cas où l'exécution provisoire est permise par la loi et sans préjudice des mesures conservatoires ou de prévention que les parties demanderont ou que le Tribunal estimera nécessaires en matière civile aussi bien qu'en matière pénale.

Art. 49. Le jugement par défaut est admis. Il ne pourra être exécuté que trois mois après qu'il aura été rendu ; s'il n'y a pas de requête d'opposition il sera exécuté tel quel, et aucune opposition ne sera admise postérieurement à l'exécution.

Art. 50. Le délai d'appel est de trois mois à dater de la signification du jugement.

Art. 51. Il n'y aura que deux degrés de juridiction en matière civile et pénal. Le pourvoi en cassation à Constantinople ne sera admis au pénal comme au civil que dans les cas suivants :—1. Violation de la loi ; 2. Incompétence ou excès de pouvoir ; 3. Inobservation des formes de procédure essentielles ; 4. Contrariété de jugement rendu en dernier ressort dans la même affaire entre les mêmes parties, sur les mêmes moyens.

Chapitre IX.—*De la Composition des Tribunaux de Commerce.*

Art. 52. Il y aura dans l'Ile de Crète trois Tribunaux de Commerce, dont un à la Canée, un à Réthimo, et le troisième à Candie.

Art. 53. La circonscription territoriale de chacun de ces trois Tribunaux sera déterminée par le Gouverneur-Général assisté de son Conseil d'Administration.

Art. 54. Chacun de ces trois Tribunaux sera composé d'un Président et de quatre membres.

Art. 55. Le Président de chacun de ces Tribunaux sera choisi, nommé, revoqué et rémunéré directement par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 56. Les Membres des Tribunaux de Commerce seront élus dans une Assemblée composée des commerçants notables appartenant aux deux religions.

Cette Assemblée sera convoquée tous les ans, au mois de Janvier, par le Gouverneur-Général ou les Gouverneurs, et sera présidée par eux.

Art. 57. La liste des commerçants notables sera dressée sur tous les commerçants de l'arrondissement judiciaire de chacun des trois Tribunaux, par les soins de l'administration, au commencement de chaque année. Cette liste sera divisée en deux colonnes, dont l'une portera les noms des notables commerçants Musulmans et l'autre ceux des notables commerçants Chrétiens. Seront applicables en ce qui concerne ces listes les dispositions des Articles 5, 6, et 8 ci-dessus.

Art. 58. Les membres Chrétiens de l'Assemblée choisiront les deux Juges Chrétiens devant siéger au Tribunal de Commerce parmi les Chrétiens portés sur la liste des notables commerçants ; les membres Musulmans désigneront les Juges Musulmans sur la liste des notables Musulmans.

Art. 59. Tout commerçant pourra être nommé Juge s'il est âgé de vingt-cinq ans, et s'il exerce le commerce avec honneur et distinction depuis cinq ans.

Art. 60. L'élection sera faite au scrutin individuel à la pluralité absolue des voix, et il en sera dressé procès-verbal régulier, lequel procès-verbal sera signé par le Gouverneur-Général ou les Gouverneurs. Copie certifiée en sera transmise au Président du Tribunal pour être gardée aux archives. Les Juges sortant d'exercice pourront être réélus immédiatement pour une autre année.

Tout membre élu en remplacement d'un autre par suite de décès ou de tout autre cause ne demeurera en exercice que pendant la durée du mandat confié à son prédécesseur.

Art. 61. Il y aura près de chaque Tribunal de Commeree de greffiers et d'huissiers en nombre suffisant nommés par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Art. 62. Pour les raisons indiquées dans l'Article 43 ci-dessus, les jugements des Tribunaux de Commerce seront rendus en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 63. Les fonctions de Juge de Commerce sont seulement honorifiques.

Chapitre X.—*De la Compétence des Tribunaux de Commerce.*

Art. 64. La compétence des Tribunaux de Commerce est réglée par les Articles 28 à 38 de l'Appendice du Code de Commerce Ottoman. Les demandes pourront y être introduites directement sans qu'il soit nécessaire que le renvoi en ait été préalablement décrété par l'autorité administrative.

Art. 65. Les contestations auxquelles pourrait donner lieu l'exécution des sentences rendues par les Tribunaux de Commerce seront portées devant les Tribunaux Mixtes du lieu où se trouve le Tribunal de Commerce qui a rendu le jugement.

Art. 66. L'appel des jugements des Tribunaux de Commerce dans les cas spécifiés par la Loi sur la Procédure Commerciale, Articles et , sera porté par devant le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre XI.—*De l'Organisation des Conseils des Anciens ou Demogéronties.*

Art. 67. Chaque village, tel qu'il sera délimité par les soins de l'autorité administrative, aura un Conseil des Anciens.

Art. 68. Dans chaque Gouvernement il y aura une Démogérontie Chrétienne et une Démogérontie Musulmane. La Démogérontie Chrétienne de Gouvernement sera composée

du chef spirituel, d'un membre Chrétien du Tribunal Mixte de Gouvernement, d'un membre Chrétien du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement, et de deux membres, élus par les membres Chrétiens du Conseil des Anciens des villages du Gouvernement, et dont les fonctions dureront trois ans.

Les Démogéronties Musulmanes de Gouvernement seront composées d'une manière analogue.

Chapitre XII.—*De la Compétence des Conseils des Anciens.*

Art. 69. En ce qui concerne les contestations entre particuliers, les Conseils des Anciens des Villages rempliront les fonctions de Juges de Paix conciliateurs. Les sentences rendues par les susdits Conseils ne seront obligatoires pour les parties, tant qu'elles n'auront pas été acceptées par les parties, ou que les parties ne s'en soient remises par écrit à l'arbitrage du Conseil des Anciens. Dans tous les cas les sentences rendues par les Conseils des Anciens ne seront exécutoires qu'après avoir été homologuées par le Tribunal Mixte dans le ressort duquel se trouve le Conseil des Anciens qui a rendu la sentence.

Art. 70. Les Démogéronties Chrétiennes de Gouvernement exerceront à l'égard des Chrétiens seulement les fonctions dévolues aux Démogéronties des Villages, en vertu de l'Article précédent. Elles sont en outre spécialement chargées de veiller à l'exécution fidèle des legs et des testaments des Chrétiens, et à l'administration des fortunes et des biens de tous les Chrétiens de leur ressort qui se trouvent placés sous tutelle ou sous curatelle.

Art. 71. Les fonctions dont il a été parlé ci-dessus seront remplies à l'égard des Musulmans, par les Démogéronties Musulmanes de Gouvernement.

Art. 72. L'appel des décisions que les Démogéronties Chrétiennes auront dans les limites de leur compétence sera porté, lorsque la valeur de l'objet litigieux dépasse 5,000 piastres, ou qu'elle est indéterminée, au Tribunal Patriarcal de Constantinople, qui prononcera en dernier ressort.

Quant à tout ce qui rentre dans les attributions extra-judiciaires et simplement tutélaires des Démogéronties Chrétiennes ou Musulmanes, celles-ci seront placées sous le contrôle général du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre XIII.—*Règles concernant les Conflits d'Attributions et de Compétence Positifs ou Négatifs.*

Art. 73. Lorsque deux autorités se seront déclarées toutes deux compétentes sur une seule et même question, comme aussi dans le cas où toutes deux se seront déclarées incompétentes pour connaître d'une affaire qui pourtant est nécessairement de la compétence de l'une d'elles, on suivra les règles ci-après.

Art. 74. Si les deux autorités dont il a été parlé ci-dessus appartiennent toutes deux à l'ordre d'administratif, la question de compétence sera réglée par les Conseils Administratifs de la manière qui sera déterminée dans le Règlement Administratif.

Art. 75. Si ces deux autorités sont deux Tribunaux Mixtes, la compétence sera réglée par le Tribunal Mixte, qui devra connaître de l'appel de ces deux Tribunaux s'ils sont placés dans le ressort du même Gouvernement, et dans le cas contraire par le Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général. Ce dernier sera également compétent à statuer sur le conflit qui s'éleverait entre les Tribunaux Mixtes, les Tribunaux de la loi Musulmane, et les Tribunaux de Commerce.

Art. 76. Dans tout autre cas l'autorité chargée de régler le conflit sera le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général.

Chapitre XIV.—*Statistique Judiciaire.*

Art. 77. A la fin de chaque année, le Président du Tribunal Mixte du Gouvernement Général sera tenu de présenter un tableau statistique de la justice dans l'île.

Le Tableau indiquera au civil comme au criminel le nombre des causes introduites devant les Conseils des Anciens, les Tribunaux Mixtes, les Tribunaux de Commerce, et les Tribunaux de la Loi Musulmane ; le nombre et la nature des causes jugées en premier ressort ou en appel ; le nombre de celles qu'il reste encore à juger, la durée moyenne des procédures, la religion des plaideurs.

Le Président du susdit Tribunal sera en outre autorisé à faire suivre ce tableau des observations qu'il jugera nécessaires et d'indiquer les améliorations et les changements dont l'expérience aura montré l'opportunité, ou que l'opinion publique semblera réclamer.

Règlement Administratif.

Chapitre I.—*Administration Générale du Gouvernement Général de l'Ile de Crète.*

Article 1. Le Gouvernement Général de l'Ile de Crète est divisé en cinq Gouvernements et en vingt Districts, qui se subdivisent en Communes ayant chacune sa propre circonscription territoriale.

Art. 2. Les cinq Gouvernements de l'Ile de Crete sont; 1. Le Gouvernement de la Canée: 2. Le Gouvernement de Sfakia; 3. Le Gouvernement de Réthymo; 4. Le Gouvernement de Candie; 5. Le Gouvernement de Lassithe.

Art. 3. Le Gouvernement de la Canée comprend les Districts de la Canée, de Kissamos, et de Sélinos. Le Gouvernement de Sfakia comprend les Districts de Sfakia, d'Agi-Vassili, et d'Apocorona. Le Gouvernement de Réthymo comprend les Districts de Réthymo, de Mylopotamo, et d'Amari. Le Gouvernement de Candie comprend les Districts de Teménos, de Malévisi, de Pyriotissa, de Kénurio Monafesti, Pedia, Rizo. Le Gouvernement de Lassithe comprend les Districts de Lassithe, Mirabello, Sitia, et Yérapétra.

Art. 4. La circonscription territoriale de chaque district est celle qui a existé jusqu'à présent.

Art. 5. L'administration de l'île est confiée à un Gouverneur-Général nommé par Iradé Impérial. A la tête de chaque Gouvernement se trouve placé un Gouverneur nommé par Iradé Impérial. La moitié des Gouverneurs sera prise parmi les employés Chrétiens, et l'autre moitié parmi les employés Musulmans du Gouvernement Impérial. A la tête de chaque district se trouve placé un Sous-Gouverneur, que le Gouvernement Impérial choisira, selon le cas, parmi les employés Musulmans et Chrétiens.

Art. 6. Les sièges des Gouverneurs et des Sous-Gouverneurs seront déterminés par arrêté du Gouverneur-Général, assisté de son Conseil d'Administration. Aucun changement ne pourra être fait sur ce point sans l'avis du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général, et du Gouverneur-Général lui-même.

Art. 7. Le Gouverneur-Général sera assisté dans son administration par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général et deux Conseillers, dont l'un sera choisi parmi les employés Chrétiens et l'autre parmi les employés Musulmans du Gouvernement Impérial, et qui seront nommés tous deux par Iradé.

Le Gouverneur-Général remplira en même temps les fonctions de Gouverneur du Gouvernement de la Canée, et le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général remplira également les fonctions de Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement de la Canée.

Art. 8. Les Gouverneurs seront assistés dans leur administration par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement et un Adjoint: celui-ci sera Chrétien si le Gouverneur est Musulman, il sera Musulman si le Gouverneur est Chrétien, et sa nomination aura lieu en vertu d'un Iradé Impérial.

Les Gouverneurs rempliront en même temps les fonctions de Sous-Gouverneurs du District dans lequel sera situé le siège de leur administration, et le Conseil d'Administration de Gouvernement remplira en même temps les fonctions de Conseil d'Administration du District où siège le Gouverneur.

Art. 9. Le Sous-Gouverneur sera assisté dans l'exercice de ses fonctions par un Conseil d'Administration de District et un Adjoint. L'Adjoint du Sous-Gouverneur Musulman sera Chrétien; celui du Sous-Gouverneur Chrétien sera Musulman.

Art. 10. L'administration de la commune appartient du Conseil des Anciens.

Chapitre II.—*Attributions et Mode d'Election du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général.*

Art. 11. Le pouvoir exécutif appartient exclusivement au Gouverneur-Général, qui l'exerce conformément aux dispositions des lois et aux instructions qu'il reçoit, au moyen des Gouverneurs, des Sous-Gouverneurs, et des Conseils des Anciens, des différents Gouvernements, Districts, et Villages de l'Ile de Crète.

Art. 12. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général se compose des deux Conseillers, du Receveur-Général ("Defterdar"), du Contrôleur de la Justice ("Mufettichi-hukkiam"), du Métropolitain, des deux Secrétaires-Généraux ("Méktoubdjis"), et de six Membres, dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens, respectivement élus par les habitants Musulmans et Chrétiens de l'île, conformément au mode d'élection établi ci-après.

Il est placé sous la présidence du Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 13. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général ne pourra, à quelque titre que ce soit, s'ingérer dans l'exercice du pouvoir judiciaire ou exécutif. Le principe

qui, dans la sphère du service administratif, doit régler les attributions respectives du Gouverneur-Général et de son Conseil, c'est que si, d'une part, l'action, l'initiative, l'exécution, la correspondance directe avec les autorités inférieures et supérieures, et l'envoi des ordres, appartiennent exclusivement au Gouverneur-Général, d'autre part la discussion, la délibération, le jugement en matière administrative, appartiennent au Conseil susmentionné. Dès lors dans toute mesure administrative qui ne consisterait pas dans la mise à exécution pure et simple d'une disposition légale ou réglementaire, mais dont l'application exigera au préalable une discussion, un jugement, une appréciation des différents intérêts engagés, le Gouverneur-Général sera tenu de s'en rapporter à l'avis du Conseil sus-mentionné.

Art. 14. Conformément à ce qui vient d'être dit dans l'Article précédent, le Conseil sus-mentionné aura le droit de discuter toutes les mesures administratives prises par le Gouverneur-Général, qui auraient un caractère permanent ou d'une certaine durée.

A cet effet, aucun réglement ou arrêté du Gouverneur-Général, concernant l'organisation de municipalités, d'établissements de correction, de bienfaisance, de seconrs, la création ou la suppression de marchés, de foires, de lieux de sépulture publics, l'acquisition, l'aliénation, l'échange, la concession même temporaire, l'affectation spéciale de terrains ou de propriétés publiques, le mode de rapatriement des personnes expatriées, la fixation de primes ou de récompenses, et autres objets de même nature, ne pourra être mis à exécution dans l'île directement par le Gouverneur-Général, ou indirectement par les Gouverneurs ou les Sous-Gouverneurs, à moins d'avoir été préalablement discuté par le Conseil.

Celui-ci pourra introduire dans la mesure proposée par le Gouverneur-Général les modifications qu'il croira convenables. Les arrêtés et réglements ainsi discutés pourront être mis à exécution immédiatement par le Gouverneur-Général, sauf à lui à demander l'autorisation du Gouvernement Impérial dans le cas où cela serait nécessaire.

Si le Gouverneur-Général croit bon de mettre à exécution l'arrêté proposé, bien qu'il ait été repoussé par le Conseil ou sans admettre les modifications introduites, il ne pourra procéder à son application qu'en vertu d'un Décret Impérial. Il pourra même procéder à l'exécution immédiate, sauf ratification du Gouvernement Impérial, également par Décret, mais en déclarant l'urgence et en assumant sur lui toute la responsabilité d'une pareille mesure.

Art. 15. Le Gouverneur-Général et le Conseil d'Administration auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits, et les mêmes devoirs que ceux exposés dans l'Article précédent en ce qui concerne tous les arrêtés qui obligeraient les habitants de l'île ou une partie d'entre eux à faire un payement en argent ou une prestation en nature ou à renoncer à un droit acquis.

Tels seraient les arrêtés qui imposeraient une augmentation des taxes payées en matière de navigation, ou un péage ; qui limiteraient le nombre de ceux qui exercent une profession ou un métier ; qui ordonneraient la fermeture même provisoire d'une fabrique, d'une usine, ou d'un atélier pour cause d'insalubrité ou de violation des réglements ou des usages ; qui rendraient obligatoires un genre de culture ou de clôture ; qui autoriseraient l'établissement de bâteaux particuliers ou d'un service de messageries ; qui déclareraient passibles certaines catégories d'actes non spécifiés dans le Code Pénal.

Art. 16. Le Gouverneur-Général et son Conseil auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits et les mêmes devoirs que ceux indiqués dans l'Article 14, en ce qui concerne les marchés, traités et contrats conclus avec des tiers au nom du Gouvernement Général.

Art. 17. Le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général fera la répartition par Gouvernement de tous les impôts directs dont la perception aura été décidée en vertu d'une loi ou d'une décision exécutoire de l'Assemblée Générale de l'Ile. Il règlera aussi la perception de tous les impôts indirects dont la perception aura été décidée en vertu d'une décision exécutoire de l'Assemblée Générale.

Art. 18. Le susdit Conseil est chargé du contrôle des dépenses et des revenus généraux et particuliers dont la surveillance, en ce qui concerne la comptabilité, appartient, d'après les règlements, aux Conseils d'Administration de toute l'île.

Art. 19. Il est également chargé de la surveillance et de la conservation de tous les meubles et immeubles que l'Etat possède dans l'Ile, et qui sont directement administrés pour le trésor Impérial.

Art. 20. Le même Conseil présentera à l'Assemblée Générale le compte des dépenses de l'exercice écoulé pour tout ce qui est du ressort de l'administration locale. Il présentera également à cette même Assemblée le Budget de l'année suivante, comprenant l'exposé motivé de toutes les mesures qu'il jugera nécessaires et utiles.

Art. 21. Il appartiendra au susdit Conseil de prononcer en dernier ressort :

1. Sur toutes les difficultés qui pourront surgir en matière d'élection des Anciens des villages, des Démogéronties des Gouvernements, des Membres des Tribunaux Mixtes de divers ordres, des Membres des Tribunaux de Commerce, des Membres des Conseils d'Administration des Districts et des Gouvernements.

2. Sur toutes les difficultés qui pourront surgir entre les Gouverneurs, leurs Conseils d'Administration, les Sous-Gouverneurs, leurs Conseils d'Administration, les Conseils des Anciens, et en général sur tous les conflits des diverses Administrations entre elles.

3. Sur toutes difficultés et réclamations auxquelles peuvent donner lieu la délimitation des circonscriptions territoriales des différentes autorités judiciaires et administratives, ainsi que sur les demandes en modification des dites circonscriptions.

4. Sur tous les conflits judiciaires dans les cas spécifiés par le Règlement Judiciaire.

5. Sur toutes les difficultés qui s'élèvent en matière de perception d'impôts directs, tels que dîmes, &c.

Art. 22. Le susdit Conseil autorisera, en outre, toutes poursuites pénales contre les employés qui n'auront pas été nommés par Iradé Impérial pour tous faits commis par eux dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions.

Une fois l'autorisation accordée, les poursuites auront lieu par devant les Tribunaux ordinaires, qui prononceront conformément aux dispositions de la loi.

Le Gouverneur-Général ne pourra point empêcher le cours des poursuites autorisées par le Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général. Il pourra néanmoins faire suspendre de ses fonctions un fonctionnaire de ceux dont il a été parlé ci-dessus, et autoriser des poursuites contre lui par devant les Tribunaux ordinaires même dans le cas où le Conseil déciderait qu'il n'y a pas lieu de poursuivre.

Si la poursuite intentée contre l'employé ne consiste qu'en une demande de dommages-intérêts, le Conseil, quel que soit le rang de l'employé, pourra statuer sur les dommages-intérêts, s'il n'aime mieux renvoyer la demande devant les Tribunaux ordinaires.

Art. 23. Le susdit Conseil est spécialement chargé de recueillir toutes les données concernant la statistique de l'île.

Art. 24. Il a le droit, à condition d'en user avec une réserve extrême, de faire au Gouverneur-Général des remontrances dans le cas où, dans ses relations avec le Conseil, il s'écarterait des règles prescrites par les lois et par le présent Règlement.

Art. 25. Le susdit Conseil sera tenu de donner son avis sur toutes les questions qui lui seront soumises par le Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 26. Il recevra toutes les pétitions qui lui seront adressées directement. Si l'objet de la pétition est de ceux qui rentrent dans ses attributions, il ne pourra y donner suite sans en avoir prévenu le Gouverneur-Général.

Dans le cas contraire il rejettera la pétition présentée. Néanmoins il pourra, dans le cas où il le jugerait nécessaire, recommander la pétition aussi rejetée à l'attention du Gouverneur-Général.

Art. 27. Les décisions du Conseil seront prises à la pluralité des voix ; la minorité aura le droit de faire insérer son avis à la suite du procès-verbal, ou d'en faire une rédaction à part. En cas de partage, la voix du Président comptera double.

Art. 28. Aucune séance du susdit Conseil, aucune décision en matière de contentieux administratif et autre, ne sera régulière si la moitié au moins des membres ne s'y trouvent présents.

Art. 29. Conformément au nouveau règlement de l'Ile de Crète le travail des bureaux devant avoir lieu dans les deux langues, les procès-verbaux du Conseil seront tenus en Grec et en Turc.

Art. 30. Les membres électifs du Conseil d'Administration du Gouvernement Général seront désignés par l'Assemblée Générale annuelle. Les membres Musulmans et les membres Chrétiens de la susdit Assemblée votent ensemble. Il seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des membres des Tribunaux Mixtes. La durée de leurs fonctions sera de trois ans.

Art. 31. A la fin de la première année l'Assemblée Générale procédera, ainsi qu'il a été dit plus haut, à l'élection d'un membre Musulman et d'un membre Chrétien, qui devront remplacer le membre Musulman et le membre Chrétien sortants. Ceux-ci seront tirés au sort. Il en sera de même à la fin de la seconde année pour l'élection des deux Conseillers qui devront remplacer les deux sortants parmi les quatre restants de la première élection ; après la seconde élection il n'y aura plus lieu d'avoir recours au tirage au sort.

Art. 32. L'Assemblée Générale, en choisissant un Conseiller, ainsi qu'il vient d'être dit, désignera aussi un suppléant, qui sera appelé à remplacer dans le Conseil le membre

élu, dans le cas où celui-ci, pour une cause quelconque, se trouverait dans l'impossibilité d'y siéger.

Art. 33. Les membres du Conseil du Gouvernement-Général recevront une rétribution fixée à piastres par an.

Chapitre III.—*Attribution et Mode d'Election des Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements et des Districts.*

Art. 34. Les Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements Mixtes seront composés de l'Adjoint, du Juge (Hakim), de l'Evêque, du Receveur particulier (Mouhassebédji), de deux Secrétaires-en-chef, et de six membres électifs, dont trois seront Musulmans et trois autres Chrétiens ; dans les Gouvernements dont la population est en totalité Chrétienne, les susdits Conseils seront composés de l'Adjoint, de l'Evêque, du Receveur particulier, du Secrétaire-en-chef, et de six membres électifs Chrétiens. Le mode d'élection de ces membres sera déterminé ci-après.

Dans tous les cas, ces Conseils se trouveront sous la présidence des Gouverneurs respectifs.

Art. 35. Les Conseils d'Administration des Districts Mixtes seront composés de l'Adjoint, du Percepteur (Mal-Mudiri), et de six membres, dont trois Musulmans et trois Chrétiens, élus par les habitants du district, ainsi qu'il sera déterminé ci-après ; dans le district dont la population est exclusivement Chrétienne ou Musulmane, les membres électifs seront tous les six Chrétiens ou Musulmans. Dans tous les cas, les susdits Conseils sont placés sous la présidence de leurs Sous-Gouverneurs respectifs.

Art. 36. De même que les Gouverneurs et les Sous-Gouverneurs se trouvent être les représentants du pouvoir exécutif qui réside dans le Gouverneur-Général, de même aussi les Conseils d'Administration qui se trouvent placés auprès d'eux sont considérés comme les représentants du pouvoir consultatif et délibératif résidant dans le Conseil d'Administration placé auprès du Gouverneur-Général, et sont autorisés à discuter toutes les mesures administratives des Gouverneurs et des Sous-Gouverneurs qui ne consistent pas dans une mise à exécution pure et simple.

Art. 37. En conséquence est et demeure interdite aux susdits Conseils toute ingérence dans le pouvoir judiciaire et dans le pouvoir Exécutif, soit que dans ce dernier cas il s'agisse d'une mesure prise par le Gouverneur-Général seul ou qu'il ait été assisté de son Conseil d'Administration, pourvu que, dans tous les cas, il ne soit question que d'une simple mesure d'exécution.

Art. 38. Par contre, dans tous les cas où il ne s'agira pas, de la part du Gouverneur, d'un simple acte d'exécution, soit que cet acte émane directement du Gouverneur, soit qu'il l'ait reçu, le Gouvernement et le Conseil auront réciproquement les mêmes attributions, les mêmes droits, les mêmes devoirs que ceux prescrits dans les Articles 13 à 20 et 23 à 27 ci-dessus. Les Sous-Gouverneurs et leurs Conseils se trouveront dans leurs relations avec les Gouverneurs et leurs Conseils, dans une situation absolument identique à celle dans laquelle sont placés ces derniers vis-à-vis des autorités de la Canée.

Art. 39. Le pouvoir exécutif, ainsi que le droit d'initiative, résident dans les Gouverneurs et les Sous-Gouverneurs ; leurs Conseils ne seront pas responsables des avis émis par eux dans l'exercice de leurs fonctions consultatives.

Art. 40. Les règles concernant les devoirs des Gouverneurs, des Receveurs particuliers, des Sous-Gouverneurs, des Percepteurs, et leurs Conseils d'Administration, en matière de comptabilité, sont établies dans la Loi Financière des Gouvernements Généraux.

Art. 41. Les dispositions des Articles 27, 28, 29 ci-dessus sont également applicables aux Conseils de Gouvernement et de District.

Art. 42. Les membres des Conseils d'Administration des Districts seront élus par les Conseils des Anciens des Cantons, respectivement les Musulmans par les Musulmans, et les Chrétiens par les Chrétiens.

Leurs fonctions sont annuelles. Ils seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des membres des Tribunaux Mixtes. Ils ne recevront aucune rétribution.

Art. 43. Les membres des Conseils d'Administration des Gouvernements seront élus par les Conseils d'Administration et les Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts compris dans le Gouvernement. Les membres Musulmans des Conseils d'Administration des Districts et des Tribunaux Mixtes du Gouvernement éliront les membres Musulmans des Conseils d'Administration de Gouvernement ; les membres Chrétiens des Conseils d'Administration de District et des Tribunaux Mixtes des Districts compris dans le Gouvernement éliront les membres Chrétiens des Conseils d'Administration de Gouvernement. La durée des fonctions des membres des Conseils d'Administration de Gouvernement sera de deux ans.

Ils seront pris sur les listes qui serviront à l'élection des membres des Tribunaux Mixtes. Ils recevront une rétribution annuelle fixée à . . piastres.

Chapitre IV.—*Conseils des Anciens.*

Art. 44. Une loi spéciale réglera l'administration de la Commune. L'Assemblée Générale est invitée à présenter à l'approbation du Gouvernement Impérial un projet de loi sur l'organisation communale : jusqu'à ce qu'une loi soit établie sur ce point important, les villages seront administrés par les Conseils des Anciens comme par le passé.

Règlement concernant l'Organisation du Conseil-Général.

Chapitre I.—*Des Elections au Conseil-Général.*

Article 1. Le Conseil-Général est composé des Délégués de chaque Caza, qui se réunissent au chef-lieu du vilayet. Chaque Caza nomme quatre Conseillers. Les Cazas habités par des Musulmans et des Chrétiens nomment chacun deux Conseillers Musulmans et deux Conseillers Chrétiens ; et ceux dont la population est entièrement Musulmane ou Chrétienne, quatre Conseillers appartenant au même culte que la population.

Art. 2. Indépendemment des Cazas, les villes de la Canée, de Candie, et de Rétimo envoient chacune quatre Délégués, dont deux Musulmans et deux Chrétiens.

Art. 3. Les membres du Conseil-Général sont élus par les Conseils des Anciens, qui se réunissent le 10 Décembre de chaque année au chef-lieu du Caïmacamat. Le Caïmacam doit, quinze jours au moins avant celui fixé pour les élections, faire les publications requises, et convoquer les Conseils des Anciens.

Art. 4. Nul ne peut être élu au Conseil-Général sans la présence des deux-tiers au moins des membres, Musulmans ou Chrétiens, de l'Assemblée Electorale. Si au jour fixé ci-dessus les deux-tiers des électeurs ne sont pas présents, les élections sont remises au Dimanche suivant, et le Caïmacam invite de nouveau les membres absents de l'Assemblée Electorale à s'y présenter. Si les électeurs ne se réunissent pas encore en nombre suffisant, les membres présents procèdent sans autre délai aux élections.

Art. 5. Le Caïmacam préside l'Assemblée Electorale, sans prendre part au vote ; n'exerce d'autres fonctions que celles du Président : il a la police de l'Assemblée, et veille à la confection du procès-verbal des opérations électorales.

Art. 6. Les Conseillers Musulmans sont élus par les électeurs Musulmans, et les Conseillers Chrétiens par les électeurs Chrétiens. Les élections ont lieu à la majorité absolue des suffrages, qui sont recueillis au scrutin secret.

Art. 7. Les membres du Conseil-Général sont nommés pour deux ans ; ils sont renouvelés par moitié chaque année. La première année chaque Caza nomme quatre Délégués, conformément aux dispositions de l'Article 1. L'année suivante l'Assemblée Electorale désigne, par voie du sort, ceux des quatre Délégués qui doivent sortir.

Les années suivantes chaque Caza n'a plus à nommer que deux Délégués pour remplacer les Délégués sortants.

Art. 8. Les Conseillers sont rééligibles. Dans le cas où un Conseiller ne peut, par suite de quelque motif ou empêchement, remplir son mandat jusqu'à l'expiration des deux années, il est procédé à l'élection d'un nouveau Délégué, dont les fonctions ne durent que jusqu'au terme du mandat de celui qu'il remplace.

Art. 9. Sont éligibles toutes les personnes inscrites sur la liste électorale qui est dressée par le Caïmacam, conformément à l'Article 8 du Règlement concernant l'organisation judiciaire de l'île. Peut être élu, dans chaque Caza, tout Crétois, sujet Ottoman, qui réunit les conditions indiquées dans le susdit Article, qu'il ait ou non son domicile dans le même Caza.

Art. 10. L'élection de chaque Conseiller fait l'objet d'un procès-verbal, qui est certifié et signé par le Caïmacam.

Art. 11. Le procès-verbal de l'élection est dressé lors même que la personne élue ne serait pas présente à l'Assemblée Electorale. Son élection lui est notifiée par le Caïmacam.

Art. 12. Les Délégués se réunissent à la Canée, chef-lieu du vilayet, le 15 Janvier au plus tard. Sont considérés comme démissionnaires les Délégués qui ne se sont pas présentés jusqu'à cette date, et qui n'ont pas fait connaître à l'autorité le motif de leur retard. Dans ce cas le Gouverneur-Général du Vilayet, sur l'avis du Conseil d'Administration, donne aux Gouverneurs ou Sous-Gouverneurs des localités dont les Délégués sont absents l'ordre de faire procéder immédiatement à de nouvelles élections.

Art. 13. Le Conseiller élu dans deux Caza est libre d'opter entre les deux ; l'élection est renouvelée dans le Caza auquel il n'aura pas donné sa préférence.

Le Conseiller est toutefois tenu de déclarer son option à l'autorité, dans le délai d'une semaine, à partir du jour où le dernier procès-verbal d'élection lui est remis ; à défaut d'option, dans le délai fixé ci-dessus, le Conseil d'Administration, sur l'ordre du Gouverneur-Général, décide auquel des deux Cazas appartiendra le Conseiller ; et il est procédé dans l'autre Caza à une nouvelle élection.

Art. 14. Les Déléguées des Sandjacks reçoivent chacun de la caisse du Vilayet la somme de 1,000 piastres, à titre de frais de route et une indemnité de 18 piastres par jour, à compter du 15 Janvier, date à laquelle le Conseil-Général se réunira au chef-lieu du Vilayet jusqu'à la fin de la session.

Chapitre II.—*De la Tenue et des Délibérations du Conseil-Général.*

Art. 15. Les Délégues se réunissent dans le local du Conseil au jour et à l'heure fixés pour l'ouverture de la session et se constituent en Conseil sous la présidence du Gouverneur-Général. A cette première séance, ils remettent au Gouverneur les procès-verbaux de leur élection.

S'il y a réclamation de la part du Gouverneur-Général ou des Délégués présents contre un ou plusieurs procès-verbaux soumis au Conseil, l'examen de ces pièces est réservé ; on inscrit sur un registre spécial les noms des Déléguês dont l'élection n'a donné lieu à aucune réclamation et qui statuent alors sur chacune des élections contestées. Si l'élection est approuvée, le nom de la personne élue est ajouté à la liste des Conseillers ; dans le cas contraire, l'élection est déclarée nulle et elle est renouvelée conformement à l'Article 12.

Art. 16. Nul autre que les Délégués ne peut assister aux séances.

Art. 17. Le Conseil-Général se réunit en séance générale ou en séance particulière, suivant le cas. La présence de tous les Délégués est requise pour la discussion des questions d'intérêt général. Pour toutes les affaires spéciales, les Délégués qu'elles concernent, c'est-à-dire, les Délégués Musulmans, ou les Délégués Chrétiens seuls, suivant la nature de la question, sont présents aux délibérations.

Art. 18. Les séances générales sont présidées par le Gouverneur-Général ou par le Conseiller (Muchavir) qu'il délègue à cet effet. Le Président, dans les séances particulières, est élu par les Délégués qui assistent aux débats.

Art. 19. Le Conseil constitué en séance générale ou particulière ne peut entrer en délibération sans la présence de la moitié, plus un, des Délégués dont la présence est requise.

Art. 20. La personne qui préside dans les séances particulières exerce les mêmes attributions que le Président dans les séances générales.

Art. 21. Aucun membre ne peut prendre la parole sans l'avoir demandée et obtenue du Président.

Art. 22. Toute question soumise au Conseil et au sujet de laquelle il n'y a pas unanimité de voix est votée au scrutin secret.

Art. 23. La langue Grecque peut être employée dans les délibérations du Conseil-Général. Les paroles prononcées par le Gouverneur-Général sont aussi communiqnées à l'Assemblée dans cette langue.

Art. 24. Les débats de chaque séance sont régulièrement consignées dans un procès-verbal dont lecture est donnée à l'ouverture de la séance suivante. Les rectifications sont portées sur le procès-verbal ; après quoi le procès-verbal est signé ou scellé par le Président, le Secrétaire, et les Délégués qui ont pris part aux votes dans la même séance.

Art. 25. Aussitôt Conseil constitué, après la vérification des pouvoirs opérée conformément à l'Article 13, le Gouverneur-Général lui communique l'ordre du jour de la séance, lequel est consigné dans un registre spécial. Toute proposition que les délégués désirent soumettre au Conseil doit être remise au Gouverneur-Général et transcrite également sur le registre. Une Commission de six personnes prises parmi les membres du Conseil arrête l'ordre de la discussion d'après l'importance des matières. Elle présente la liste des questions à discuter au Président, qui la transmet au Conseil après l'avoir certifiée. Le Conseil délibère sur les questions portées sur le registre d'après d'ordre de l'inscription. Il ne peut passer à l'examen d'aucun autre sujet tant que la discussion des questions inscrites n'est pas entièrement épuisée. Néanmoins l'élection des membres des autres Conseils et l'examen et l'apurement des comptes, qui forment les attributions spéciales du Conseil, ne doivent avoir la priorité sur toutes les autres matières dont le Conseil ne peut s'occuper avant d'avoir réglé celles de la première catégorie. Les questions qui datent de l'année

précédente ont la priorité sur toutes les autres, à l'exception toutefois des affaires pressées et importantes, dont la discussion immédiate est demandée par le Président ou par le tiers, au moins, des membres du Conseil.

Art. 26. La durée de la session est de quarante jours au plus.

Chapitre III.—*Des Attributions du Conseil-Général.*

Art. 27. Le Conseil-Général a pour mission, en dehors des affaires particulières dont l'examen lui est attribué par le présent Règlement, d'étudier les matières d'utilité publique, telles que l'établissement de voies de communication, la formation de caisses de crédit et tout ce qui peut favoriser l'industrie, le commerce et l'agriculture, enfin les moyens de répandre l'instruction publique en ce qui est d'une application générale. Le Conseil ne peut délibérer sur toutes ces questions d'un intérêt général qu'en séance générale.

Art. 28. Les affaires particulières de chaque communauté, c'est-à-dire, les questions relatives aux affaires spirituelles et religieuses, à l'administration des lieux consacrés à chaque culte et des immeubles dédiés à ces lieux, à l'emploi et à la direction du personnel attaché à leur service, à l'amélioration des écoles appartenant à chaque communauté, et enfin aux droits particuliers des différentes cultes et à tout autre objet qui les concerne spécialement, ne pouvant naturellement être examinées en assemblée générale mixte et devant être décidées d'après les règles, usages et institutions religieuses de chaque communauté, toutes ces questions d'un ordre spécial sont examinées, suivant les dispositions de l'Article 17, en séances particulières, auxquelles assisteront les Délégués Musulmans seuls, si la question concerne les Musulmans, ou les délégués Chrétiens seuls, si la question intéresse la population Chrétienne.

Art. 29. Le Conseil délibère en séance générale sur toutes les matières d'intérêt commun, telles que le développement de l'instruction publique et les intérêts économiques de l'île.

Art. 30. Toute pétition ou proposition se rapportant aux attributions du Conseil-General et remise par un ou plusieurs électeurs à leur Délégué pour être soumis au Conseil, en séance genérale ou particulière, est présentée à l'Assemblée par le Délégué que la reçoit. Le Délégué peut aussi la transmettre au Secrétaire pour qu'il en soit donné lecture au Conseil.

Art. 31. Les décisions du Conseil sur les questions qui lui sont soumises par le Gouverneur-Général, sous la réserve de l'approbation du Gouvernement Impérial, ne deviennent exécutoires qu'après avoir été approuvées par le Gouvernement. Si le Gouverneur-Général soumet la question purement et simplement aux delibérations du Conseil, la décision de l'Assemblée, formulée dans un rapport, doit être exécuteé par le Gouveneur-Général.

Art. 32. Les décisions prises par le Conseil relativement aux objets énumérés à l'Article 27 sont consignées dans les procès-verbaux spéciaux, qui, après la clôture la session, sont soumis au Gouvernement Impérial par le Gouverneur de Vilayet. Elles ne peuvent être exécutoires qu'en vertu d'un Iradé Impérial.

Art. 33. Un compte-rendu analytique des débats du Conseil-Général est rédigé par le Secrétaire et publié, s'il y a lieu, dans le journal.

Les Délégués ne pourront être en aucun temps poursuivis ou reprimanéds pour les opinions qu'ils auraient émises au sein du Conseil-Général dans les limites des attributions de l'Assemblée.

Le Règlement Organique, ainsi que les autres Règlements textuellement reproduits ci-dessus, seront mis et resteront en vigueur en Crète. Notre volonté est aussi que vous tous, Gouverneur-Général, Gouverneurs et Sous-Gouverneurs de l'île, vous redoubliez d'efforts dans l'accomplissement des devoirs qu'impose à chacun de vous le poste qui lui est confiée, en vue de l'application fidèle et constante de ces règlements, et que vous veilliez à ce que personne n'agisse contrairement à leurs dispositions.

Le présent Firman a été émané à l'effet de promulguer notre volonté formelle à cet égard.

Ecrit le 15 jour du mois de Ramazan, 1284.

No. 68.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 15.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March* 5, 1868.

THE blockade-runners from Syra continue to carry on their intercourse with the insurgents in Crete with the most complete impunity. On the 25th ultimo, Mr. Consul Lloyd reports that the steamer "Crete" left Syra with her usual cargo of ammunition and provisions, and about 200 returning Cretans, and reached Suya, on the south coast of the island, on the following night.

After landing everything, she brought off a few sick Cretans and volunteers, and on the 27th returned without molestation to Syra.

On the 29th February she again left with about 170 returning Cretans, including the Chief Kokinidi, and her usual cargo of provisions and ammunition, and went direct to Phodeli Bay, on the north coast, between Retimo and Candia, where she discharged everything, without the least molestation, and took on board 125 volunteers and Cretans desirous of returning to Greece, and got back to Syra at 2 P.M. on the 1st instant, having been absent but little over twenty-four hours.

No recent intelligence has reached Athens of the progress of the insurrection in Crete.

The Russian vessels which left the Piræus a few days ago, have not yet returned. M. Novikow informs me that they were to call at Suda Bay to ascertain whether the condition of the unfortunate people at Limni was really as disastrous as had been represented by the Greek Government, in which case the Russian Admiral would apprize the Ottoman authorities of his intention, and proceed to their assistance.

No. 69.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 17.)

My Lord, *Athens, March* 7, 1868.

I, LAST night, received a letter from Mr. Consul Dickson of the 2nd instant, but no despatch: I venture, therefore, to forward to your Lordship a short extract from the letter, in case the late tempestuous weather should have prevented Mr. Dickson's official correspondence from reaching your Lordship in due course.

He says, "Admiral Boutakoff, with the squadron under his command, having come from the Piræus, left yesterday for Limni, on the coast of Agios Vassilios. Any of the unhappy sufferers from exposure and want who may be found there will be relieved by the Russian ships, and, I presume, transferred to Greece. You are aware that the fortresses were lately open to any of the insurgents and their families who wished to come and provide themselves with corn, issued gratis by the Turkish authorities. The supply has since failed, but further shiploads are daily expected from Salonica and other ports. The weather has been bitterly cold, and I fear the families on the mountains must be suffering great misery. I hear that some Cretans, however, wish their families to be restored to them in spring."

The Russian flag-ship mentioned by Mr. Dickson returned to the Piræus yesterday morning, having on board upwards of 1,100 persons whom she had found on the coast near Limni, as described in my despatch of the 22nd ultimo, and who have been landed here and taken charge of by the Cretan Committee. It is understood that the corvette "Vitiaz" will follow almost immediately with a further instalment of these unfortunate people.

In the meantime the privations to which the Cretans are exposed, even on their arrival in this country, are telling severely upon their sanitary condition; and I am informed that typhus fever and small-pox are raging amongst the families established at the Piræus to an extent which has compelled the Government to order the removal of 3,000 of them to some of the large villages, such as Marcopoulos and Keratea, to the south of Athens.

No official answer has yet been returned by the Hellenic Government to the petition of the 500 Cretans who requested, through the Ottoman authorities, that their families, now residing as emigrants in this country, might be compelled to rejoin the petitioners. I am told, however, that this document has been placed in the hands of the principal Cretan refugees here, who declare that it is from first to last an almost unmitigated fabrication. That at least 60 of the pretended heads of families are actually residing here or at the

Piræus; that numbers of others are dead; and that nearly 200 are persons residing in and about Canea, under Turkish protection, with the whole of their families.

Some authenticated statement in this sense will doubtless be made to Photiades Bey ere long, and I shall not fail to forward a copy of it to your Lordship.

Since I last wrote the blockade-runner "Crete" has made a fresh successful voyage to Siphi in Mirabello, on the north-eastern coast of the island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. M. ERSKINE.

No. 70.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 22, 1868.

THE provisions of the new Vilayet organization, specially conceded to the Island of Crete, were publicly read in detail at Canea, and in presence of the Grand Vizier, on the 15th instant. This constitution consists of two parts: first, the form of administration; second, the creation of Mixed Tribunals, and the law for defining their attributes and those of the Demigerondia.

The island is henceforth divided into five provinces and twenty districts, subdivided into villages; each district having the same territorial boundary as hitherto; the Provinces are those of Canea or Kydonia, Sphakia, Retimo, Candia or Heracleon, and Lasethe.

The Province of Canea comprises the districts of Canea, Kissamos, and Selinos; the Province of Sphakia the districts of Sphakia, St. Vassili, and Apokorona; the Province of Retimo the districts of Retimo, Mylopotamos, and Amari; the Province of Candia the districts of Temenos, Malevese, Pyriotissa, Monofatsi, Pediada, and Rhizo; the Province of Lasethe the districts of Lasethe, Mirabello, Sitia, and Yerapetra.

The Government of the island is vested in a Governor-General and a Commander of the fortresses and Imperial troops. The respective appointments of Governor-General and Commander are to be independent of each other, yet they may be united into one whenever the Sultan may deem such an amalgamation expedient.

The Governor-General will be assisted by two Counsellors appointed by the Imperial Government, and chosen, the one from the municipal authorities, the other from among the Christian employés of the empire.

Each Province will be administered by a Governor, either Mussulman or Christian.

The Mussulman Governors will be assisted by Christian assistants, and, *vice versâ*, with the Christian Governors; both the Governors and their assistants will in every case be appointed by the Porte. The districts of every Province shall be governed by Lieutenant-Governors, Mussulman or Christian, to be appointed also by the Porte.

The management of the finances will be confided to a Director for the whole island, to a Sub-Director for each Province, and to an Overseer for each District. These officers may be either Mussulman or Christian.

An Administrative Council is to be attached to the Governor-General, as also to each of the Governors. The Superior Council will be presided over by the Governor-General, and assisted by two Counsellors, a Chief Magistrate, the Greek Metropolitan, the Director of Finance, Secretaries, and six other members elected by the different Districts, of whom three are to be Mussulmans and three Christians. The official correspondence being in two languages, Turkish and Greek, every Governor will be provided with two Secretaries.

Every Provincial Governor will equally have, as members to his Council, a Counsellor, a Judge, the Bishop, Accountant, Secretary for Turkish or Greek correspondence, and three Mussulmans, and as many Christian members, all elected by the population.

There will be established at the capital of the island and in the Provinces and their Districts Tribunals formed by Mussulmans and Christian members elected by the population. Every Province and every District, moreover, is to have a Council of Elders or Demiyerondia, Mussulman or Christian.

All criminal and civil suits between Mussulmans and Christians and other non-Mahometan parties will be adjudicated by Mixed Tribunals. Special laws will define the attributes of the Mussulman Courts and those of the Demiyerondia.

At the centre of administration, a General Assembly, the members of which are to be elected by the population, will hold its sittings. Every District will be represented by two Delegates at this board, to be exclusively Mussulman or Christian, or both, according to the creed of the district population. A special law will determine the mode of election in regard to these Delegates.

The duties allotted to this Assembly, which is to meet once a year, will be with a view to matters of public utility, the establishment of banks, and any other measures relative to agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, also concerning public education.

The Imperial Government will allow out of the revenues of the island the required funds towards carrying into effect such local improvements as the Assembly may recommend, and as are approved by the Porte. The Assembly is to control the application of the sums in question.

This Assembly will report as to the best mode for assessing the taxes and tithes of the island, subject always to the approval of the Porte.

With reference to the administration of justice, which forms the second part of the Constitution, it comprises fourteen Chapters or seventy-seven Articles. The Code of Civil and Criminal Procedure, whereby the Tribunals are to be governed, not having yet been completed, I shall here merely specify the text of each of these heads:—

1. The formation of District Mixed Courts.
2. The formation of Provincial Mixed Courts.
3. The formation of a Mixed Court for the seat of Government.
4. The jurisdiction of Mixed Courts of different classes.
5. The jurisdiction of Provincial Mixed Courts.
6. The jurisdiction of the Mixed Court for the seat of Government.
7. The special jurisdiction of Mixed Courts.
8. Regulations applicable to Mixed Courts of different classes.
9. The formation of Commercial Courts.
10. The jurisdiction of Commercial Courts.
11. The formation of Councils of Elders or Demigerondia.
12. The jurisdictions of the Councils of Elders.
13. Regulations respecting the settlement of differences that may arise between one Mixed Court and another.
14. Judicial statistics.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 71.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 24, 1868.

NO political occurrence has to my knowledge happened during the last week of sufficient interest to be worth reporting to your Lordship. I may remark that the Grand Vizier is preparing to return to Constantinople, and may take his departure this week.

The Russian despatch-boat "Bombori" has just entered Suda Bay, coming from the Hellenic capital.

The United States' corvette "Ticonderoga" has left for Messina and Naples.

Some skirmishing took place near Franco-Castello on the 20th instant, when 1,500 insurgents made a rush upon the Turkish troops employed in erecting a block-house.

The former soon after making their appearance were dispersed by the shelling from two Turkish ships at anchor off Franco-Castello.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 72.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 18.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, February* 26, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Grand Vizier embarks on board His Imperial Majesty's steam-yacht "Sultanieh" this afternoon on his return to the capital.

His Highness is accompanied by Server Effendi, Cabouli Pasha, the Greek Metropolitan, M. Mismer (editor of "La Turquie" newspaper), &c.

The "Sultanieh" will be escorted by the armour-plated frigate "Osmanieh" during its passage up, and as far as the Dardanelles.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 73.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(*Received March* 20.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March* 8, 1868.

AALI PASHA called upon me this afternoon, when the affairs of Candia were naturally the principal subject of conversation.

His Highness again repeated that if the pacification of the island was not complete, it is solely attributable to the countenance the insurgents had received from abroad.

His Highness is by no means singular in this belief, which seems to be shared in by all my colleagues here, most of whom have expressed the same opinion to their Governments.

I observed to Aali Pasha that I could not but regret the moment of his coming away not having been taken advantage of for the nomination of a Christian Governor-General.

I said that, soon after my arrival here last October, the Sultan had expressed himself to me as prepared to nominate a Christian to that post, and that I had of course communicated this assurance to Her Majesty's Government, who had received it with much satisfaction; and though they had scrupulously abstained from pressing advice upon the Porte, they had more than once intimated their desire of seeing the engagement carried out.

The Grand Vizier replied that the nomination of a civil Governor-General, independent of the Commander of the Troops, before the pacification was entirely effected, would have such manifest inconvenience, that it had been thought right for the present to leave the whole Executive power in the same hands.

The question has, in fact, to be considered from two entirely different points of view.

The appointment of a Christian Governor-General would make an unquestionably good impression upon public opinion in Europe, but in Candia itself the effect would certainly not be so beneficial.

The insurgents, who still continue in arms, are not those who would be conciliated by any concessions from the Turkish Government, and they act steadily up to their repeated declarations of being satisfied with nothing short of annexation to Greece.

It is now, I conceive, almost beyond dispute that the vast majority of the Christian population would gladly submit to the Turkish authority if they were not forcibly deterred from it by the leaders of the more extreme party, which would be far more likely to be encouraged than conciliated by seeing the authority divided between a civil Governor and a military Commander.

When I expressed regret that, in drawing up the new organization for Crete, a fixed tribute, leaving the mode of levying it to the inhabitants, had not been adopted, Aali Pasha answered that the system of fixed tributes was not one which it would be convenient to adopt throughout the Empire, and if it had been established in Candia, an attempt to obtain it for other provinces would have followed as a matter of course.

The taxation of Crete was, moreover, exceptionally light, and it was impossible for any just complaint to be made against the Government upon that head.

In framing the new regulations, he had endeavoured to do it so that the benefits conferred on the Cretans might be extended to other Christian or mixed provinces, for he could not admit that those who had risen in rebellion were entitled to especial favour in preference to those who had not.

I said Her Majesty's Government would rejoice to see every possible measure taken to content the Christian populations of other provinces, but the position of Crete was such that it might require exceptional treatment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

No. 74.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 20, 1868.

I HAVE to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government approve the language which you held in your conversation with Aali Pasha on the affairs of Crete, as reported in your despatch of the 8th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 75.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March 7*, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the Russian squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral Boutakoff, on the 28th ultimo from the Piræus.

The Admiral, with the "Alexander Newsky" and the "Vitiaz," soon after proceeded to Limni, where between 2,000 and 3,000 Cretans suffering from exposure and hunger were waiting for ships to take them away. The "Bombori" gun-boat remains stationed in these waters.

The "Crete" and "Enossis" have been making several successful runs to Phinekia, Suya, Phodeles, &c., during the fortnight ending this day.

The troops have had various insignificant encounters of late with insurgent bands, at Monastir in Kissamos, at Prosgialo in Sphakia, and on Monday night last at Fré in Apokorona. In regard to the latter affair it appears that information had been brought to the camp at Kaïna by some Cretan spies, to the effect that a number of insurgents lay concealed within the village of Fré. Mehmet Ali Pasha having thither with a detachment of troops, blockaded the village, and soon after carried it by assault. One Turkish private was killed and two wounded, the loss on the Cretan side was equally trifling.

The troops on entering the village, committed many excesses, and sacked and violated two churches.

On the following day, a party of Cretans came to complain to Sawas Pasha of the misconduct of the Turkish soldiery, and at the same time produced the broken images, pieces of the altar, &c. Forty-five Cretans were made prisoners by the Turks, and being found mostly without arms, a number have since been set free. Sawas Pasha's considerate and impartial mode of dealing has elicited the approbation of all parties, ever since he assumed the Governorship of Sphakia Province.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 76.

Mr. Erskine to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 24.)

(Extract.) *Athens, March 14*, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th instant, respecting the pretended falsehoods contained in a petition alleged to have been signed by 500 heads of families in Crete, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a reply to that petition, which has been inserted in the Greek newspapers on the part of a large number of the alleged petitioners, declaring that their signatures have been forged.

I am informed by the Turkish Minister that no official answer has yet been returned to the communication which he was instructed to make to the Greek Government on this subject; M. Delyanni being still, as he asserts, engaged in a searching inquiry as to the authenticity of the signatures to the petition.

Inclosure in No. 76.

Extract from the "Indépendance Hellénique" of March 12, 1868.

Athènes, le 1 Mars, 1868.

Au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de Grèce.

NOUS, Soussignés, ayant pris dernièrement connaissance d'une pétition datée de la Canée, 23 Novembre à 28 Décembre, 1867, et adressée à Sa Majesté le Sultan, nous y avons remarqué avec étonnement que, parmi les 250 noms environ d'individus qui sont censés demander le repatriement de leurs familles en Crète, figurent aussi les nôtres, alors que nous sommes ici pour garder nos familles et celles de nos compatriotes, bien avant la date à laquelle la dite pétition est censée avoir été signée.

Nous croyons en conséquence qu'il est de notre devoir, M. le Ministre, de déclarer que nous n'avons point signé cette pétition, que nous ne pouvions même le faire, et que ceux qui y ont marqué nos noms ont commis un faux.

Nous vous prions aussi, M. le Ministre, de porter notre présente à la connaissance du Ministre de Turquie, et de ceux des grandes Puissances résidant à Athènes.

Suivent les signatures :

(De 61 habitants de Cydonie, de 23 habitants de Apocorona, et de 3 habitants de Kissamos.)

No. 77.

Mr. Elliot to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 4.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, March 19, 1868.*

IN my despatch of the 17th ultimo, I forwarded to your Lordship the copy of a petition to the Sultan from a number of Cretan heads of families, requesting that their wives and families might be sent back to them from Greece.

I forwarded a copy of the petition to Her Majesty's Consul in Crete, requesting him, as far as he was able, to ascertain the authenticity of the signatures, and I have now the honour to inclose a copy of the reply I have received from him, which greatly corroborates the *bonâ fide* character of the document, which from Greece is no doubt represented under a very different colour.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY ELLIOT.

Inclosure in No. 77.

Consul Dickson to Mr. Elliot.

Sir, *Canea, February 27, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 17th instant, inclosing the copy of a petition to the Sultan, signed by more than 500 Cretans, praying that their families who had been taken over to Greece might be restored to them; and your Excellency further requests me to furnish you with any authentic information which it may be in my power to obtain with regard to the persons whose names are attached to that document.

I shall begin by stating how the petition in question was brought about. Early in November last, Captain Anagnosti Pappadimitri, head of the village of Therisso, and about twelve Chiefs of Lakos, all of whom had joined the insurrection, and had been instrumental in sending native families (including their own), over to Greece, deeming the success of the insurgent cause as hopeless, determined upon withdrawing themselves from the contest, and held council together as to how their families might be restored to them. They next sought advice from their friend M. Kontaxaki, delegate for the district of Kydonia or Canea, in which the villages of Lakos and Therisso are also included. M. Kontaxaki suggested that a petition might be drawn up and transmitted to the Sultan, soliciting His Imperial Majesty's intercession on behalf of the expatriated Cretan families. Thie was accordingly done in M. Kontaxaki's house at Canea, Captain A. Pappadimitri and the Lakos Chiefs affixing the signatures of some of their friends present on the island, and of others in Greece, in addition to their own, while Captain Vassili Kozakos (until lately a notorious rebel Chief), of Akrokotiri, and several other individuals of less note, from Keramia, Topolia (in Kissamos), Apokorona, and one or two of Candia Province, contributed the names of many more.

Although the majority of persons whose signatures appear in the petition are absent, I have every reason to believe that that document was drawn up by the free accord of the Chiefs above-mentioned, and without any pressure from the Turkish authorities. For some time previous to the petition being presented for transmission to Constantinople, even the Grand Vizier I have been assured was ignorant of the whole circumstance, and great secresy had to be observed in view of the opposition offered by Hadji Mikhali (one of the Lakos insurgent leaders), and other influential parties on the spot, more or less interested in keeping alive the insurrection.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 78.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 7.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March*, 21, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report that a division of the Imperial army, consisting of about 6,000 men, under the command of Mehmet Pasha, has marched into Selinos, to be employed in completing the line of road from Lakos to Selinos through Kakais-plevres, and in constructing several blockhouses in the latter district.

Sixteen blockhouses have already been built in various parts of the island, and the construction of ten more is being proceeded with, being a reduction on the original number planned by the Generalissimo.

The "Sinope" frigate has recently brought about a hundred masons from Constantinople to co-operate in blockhouse making. Some of the Albanian irregulars have been sent away from the island. The authorities, on the other hand, are endeavouring to enrol a number of native Greeks to serve as a militia.

Skirmishing has occurred within the past fortnight at Kakopetro, in Kissamos; at Palaio-Khori, in Selinos; at Alikampo, in Apokorona; and at Atsipopoulo, near Retimo.

The Governor-General, accompanied by Admiral Ibrahim Pasha and Omer Pasha (Chief of the Staff), having embarked on board the "Mahmoudieh," proceeded on a cruize round the island.

Their Excellencies will in the course of their voyage visit Kissamos, Selinos, and other parts of the coast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

No. 79.

Consul Dickson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 7.)

My Lord, *Canea, Crete, March* 23, 1868.

WITH reference to past correspondence, and especially to the Petition, dated the $\frac{14}{26}$th of May, 1866,* addressed to the Sultan by Delegates from the Christian population of this island, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that an Imperial Firman has just been published here, authorizing the establishment of a bank on the island; the remission of certain excise and other duties, and a modification of the law in regard to other taxes; the opening of all the ports for purposes of trade, &c.

Firman, 16th Z'il-kaadeh, 1284 (February 28 / March 11, 1868).

In forwarding a translation of the Decree in question, I may venture to offer some remarks, such as have occurred to me on a perusal of each separate subject specified in it:—

Establishment of a Bank.

Article 1. The want of such an institution has long been felt, and following, as it would, on the pacification of the island after a protracted insurrection, a bank is the more indispensable for the revival of trade and agriculture. If this privilege be conceded to a foreign company, it may be argued whether a cadastre, or survey of the island, should not now be made, and the right of holding real property in the island be granted to foreigners.

I assume thereby that land would be mortgaged in return for advances of capital issued by the bank; but unless the bank possess the absolute power of sale of the land if the money be not repaid at the time stipulated, its retention of the title-deeds is of no value. A proper public office should also be established for the registry of every mortgage, deeds, &c.

Paying of Lawsuit Costs.

Article 2. In former years, the practice was the reverse of the law now decreed; and the winner of a law-suit was invariably called upon to pay the costs.

Fees leviable on Title-Deeds.

Article 3. The Cadi, or Judge, had the power of levying at discretion any amount, by way of fee, upon the title deeds of real property on its being sold. The purchaser usually paid the fee. No regular Tariff of Court fees yet exists.

Excise on Wine and Spirits.

Article 4. Wine was formerly made to pay a duty of 7 and 10 paras per oke.

Salt.

Article 5. By the new Firman, the duty on salt, which is still a Government monopoly, has been reduced by half its former amount.

The establishment of salt stores in various parts of the island, where salt is not produced, may be looked upon as a benefit conferred upon the population at large.

Tobacco.

Article 6. Native grown tobacco was subject to an impost of 12 piastres per oke, or 200 per cent. at its market value, the object of so high and prohibitive a duty being

* See "Correspondence respecting the Disturbances in Crete, 1866-67," laid before Parliament in February 1867, Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

evidently to stifle the production of tobacco on the island, in favour of that imported from other parts of Turkey. Of late years, very little tobacco was grown, and that only in some remote parts of Retimo and Candia Province where the duty could be best evaded.

Article 7. Many of the farmers of produce are absent from the island, and owe largely to the Government; the Greek farmers having left the island for Greece at the beginning of the insurrection. Non-payment of Interest by Farmers of Produce.

Article 8. This forms another monopoly, being annually sold by public auction to the highest bidder. Small Italian boats carry on this traffic to the number of some twelve. From 10 to 20 paras per oke was formerly levied upon fish caught with lines, and not intended for the market, but even for private consumption. Fish.

Article 9. It would be better, I consider, if such duties as those exacted from horse dealers, the public weigher, and sellers of butcher's meat, should be altogether abolished. These are monopolies, the farmers of which have it in their power to cause endless annoyance to small traders, while the proceeds of them do not afford any corresponding benefit to the exchequer. Other similar obnoxious monopolies, not adverted to in the Firman, exist, such as that for roasting, and pounding coffee, auctioneering. Horse-dealers, Weighing, Sale of Meat.

Article 10. The dyeing monopoly gave rise to many abuses in Heracleon. It has now been abolished, but a fixed duty might be laid down for all dyeing shops, without leaving the amount thus to be paid at the option of the authorities. Dyeing.

Article 11. Although the tax on straw was nominally one-tenth the produce, the practice has of late years been to levy 100 paras on every ten kilehs, or measures, of wheat and barley, extra, in consideration of the straw yielded therefrom. This was considerably more than the tithe.

The tax on fruit, and other garden produce, ought to be stated in the Firman, if not altogether remitted, since the poorer classes are principally affected by this tax.

Article 12. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the advantage the trade and agriculture of Crete would derive, if the port of Lutro, in Sphakia, Grabusa and Kissamos, Hierapetra, Spinalonga, were freely thrown open to foreign vessels. Much of the produce of the island is burdened with unnecessary expense, and no little trouble in being transported from a distance over a rugged and roadless country to one of the fortresses, instead of giving it exit at the nearest natural harbour. Opening of Ports.

Article 13. As much as 10 piastres has been paid for every written guarantee offered on behalf of persons imprisoned for debt. Fee on Debtors' Guarantee.

In conclusion, it is to be hoped that the present Firman will not remain a dead letter, and that no new tax will in future be arbitrarily imposed on the island, and without having the sanction of established law, a fact which has been acknowledged as one of the well-founded grievances of the Cretan population.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. H. DICKSON.

Inclosure in No. 79.

Imperial Firman.

(Translation.)

TO his Excellency the Governor-General of Crete, Commander-in-chief of our forces, our Vizier Hussein Avni Pasha, decorated with the insignia of our Osmanieh, and of the Medjidie of the First Class; and to our other Governors of Heracleon, Retimo, Lasethe, and Sphakia—Pertew Pasha, Moustapha Pasha, Kostaki Pasha, and Sawas Pasha, having the rank of Beylerbeys of Roumelia.

Pursuant to what has already been publicly announced by our Imperial Firman, bearing date the 25th of Ramazan, 1284, which contains the provisions of the new organization, administrative, judicial, and commercial, for the Island of Crete, and in consequence of the recommendations made by our Imperial Commissioner, the concessions asked for by the Delegates of the Cretan population assembled in Canea have been granted and confirmed in regard to the remission of certain excise duties and other taxes, the proceeds of which accrued to the Exchequer for the benefit of the Government, as will be seen by the present printed Articles, as follows:—

Article 1. With a view to the development of trade and agriculture in the island, a commercial bank will be established.

Art. 2. In all suits which are adjudicated by the Mixed Tribunals, the costs of the law suit will be paid by the vanquished party.

Art. 3. The fees leviable upon title-deeds in the purchase and sale of real property will be according to established law and the tariff.

Art. 4. Wine produced on the island will be subjected to the same duty as heretofore, namely, three paras on each oke, or the tenth. Out in the villages, the duty called "peiyieh" will no longer be levied on such wine and spirits as are retailed; and wherever these are sold, if reason be given why the taverns should be closed, the authorities will see to such measure being duly enforced.

Art. 5. Conformably with local practice at the present day, anybody is at liberty to purchase salt at the salt-pans for 20 paras per oke; and in order to afford every facility to those individuals who may be located at a distance from the salt-pans for providing themselves with that article, permission is now granted for the establishment of stores where salt may be similarly retailed at 20 paras per oke.

Art. 6. Tobacco grown on the island, and after the tithe thereon has been paid, will be subjected to no further duty until it has to pass through the Custom-house. And inasmuch as any quantity of tobacco which the villagers may export from the towns will have paid the required amount of duty, no other duty must be exacted, nor are Government officers to place any obstacles in the way of such produce being fairly exported.

Art. 7. Such of the local farmers who may have purchased any farmed produce previously to the outbreak of the insurrection, and who may be bound in sureties to the Government to pay off the stipulated amount within ten years, the same will be exempted from paying interest thereon up to the expiration of that time.

Art. 8. Those who may fish with fishing-lines, not being considered as professional fishermen, are not required to pay any duty to the farmer of such article, whether they fish in boats or vessels.

Art. 9. The tax on horse-dealers will be levied as hitherto. The same law is to continue in force in regard to weighing and to the sale of butchers' meat.

Art. 10. The monopoly for cloth-dyeing in Heracleon is abolished; and whoever may request permission to open a dyer's store, whether in Heracleon or in any of the districts, can do so on payment to Government of a sum to be hereafter fixed by the competent authority.

Art. 11. Straw made on the island will no longer pay the tithe. The tithe on fruit, commonly known under the designation of "esnaf-maksocile" ("sundry produce"), will be subjected to a general law. No duty will be levied on olives which individuals may preserve in oil or pickle in salt for their own use. On sheep and goats the same tax will be exacted as hitherto, 9 paras per head.

Art. 12. All the available ports on the island will be freely opened to commerce.

Art. 13. As to the guarantees to be offered on behalf of prisoners for debt, if the debt do not exceed 200 piastres, the guarantee must be written on a 20 para stamped paper.

And whereas it is our Imperial desire that all the preceding Articles should be strictly and faithfully observed, you, our Governor-General and the other Governors of the island, will notify the above Imperial concessions; and you will attend to the due execution thereof, and of any other measure calculated to ensure the well-being and advancement of the inhabitants of this island.

The 16th of Z'il-Kaadeh, 1284 ($\frac{\text{February}}{\text{March}}\ \frac{28}{11}$, 1868).

No. 80.

Fuad Pasha to Musurus Pasha.—(*Communicated to Lord Stanley by Musurus Pasha, April* 11.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Le* 1 *Avril*, 1868.

J'AI l'honneur de vous transmettre ci-joint la traduction du Rapport que, à son arrivée à Constantinople, son Altesse le Grand Vizir a soumis à Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan sur sa mission dans l'Ile de Crète.

Son Altesse, en remontant aux causes qui ont amené l'insurrection Crétoise, démontre victorieusement l'inanité des accusations portées contre le Gouvernement Impérial. On voit dans l'exposé lumineux qu'elle fait de la situation que toutes sortes d'intérêts et de convoitises injustes s'étaient coalisées pour amener ce déplorable état de choses auquel elle a été appelée à mettre un terme. On voit aussi comment les encouragements et l'appui extérieurs, tantôt déguisés et tantôt se produisant au grand jour, grâce à une coöpération collective que l'opinion publique habillement travaillée imposait aux Puissances, ont été d'un effet désastreuse en paralysant d'avance toutes les mesures de pacification mises en œuvre par le Gouvernement Impérial.

Il est arrivé même que l'insurrection était sur le point d'être complètement comprimée, et que les derniers bandes de brigands, dispersées, réduites à l'impuissance, se préparaient à prendre le chemin des localités d'où elles étaient venues, lorsque cette

ingérence qu'on a appelée le sauvetage des familles est venue donner une nouvelle force à l'insurrection, relever le courage des bandes et de leurs organisateurs. Si l'insurrection est un œuvre de provenance étrangère, sa durée ne saurait être attribuée qu'à cette intervention d'un genre tout nouveau, et qui, devant l'opinion publique édifiée, ne peut plus avoir sa raison d'être.

Après avoir établi ces points, sur lesquels il y a une si grande nécessité d'insister avec force, son Altesse trace à grands traits les principaux faits de sa mission. Vous savez, M. l'Ambassadeur, que cette Mission est venue peu après la proclamation de l'amnistie par Omer Pacha et la suspension des opérations militaires. Le premier soin de son Altesse a été donc d'appliquer le Règlement qui avait été élaboré à Constantinople, et de fixer tous les détails de la nouvelle organisation de manière à en assurer la sincère et complète application.

Je n'ai pas besoin de revenir sur l'importance de la haute valeur des réformes administratives et judiciaires dont l'Ile de Crète a été dotée. Elles sont aujourd'hui à la connaissance de tout le monde, et l'Europe impartiale a pu les apprécier. Elles témoignent hautement de l'esprit de progrès et de libéralisme dont le Gouvernement Impérial est animé, en même temps qu'elles marquent la dernière limite des concessions compatibles avec sa dignité et ses droits les plus incontestables. Dans d'autres conditions, et sans les causes ci-haut mentionnées qui encourageaient, qui alimentaient même l'insurrection, ces mesures auraient été suffisantes pour rétablir le calme et la tranquillité. Mais, la présence persistante des bandes dans certaines parties de l'île et les déprédations commises par elles imposaient à son Altesse, à l'expiration du délai fixé, le devoir de prendre des mesures efficaces pour la protection des habitants paisibles. Entre un plan de répression et celui de prévention, son Altesse, s'inspirant des sentiments qui ont toujours guidé dans cette question le Gouvernement Impérial, n'a pas hésité à opter pour le second moyen.

Les résultats obtenus ont en grande partie répondu à son attente, et l'expérience démontre tous les jours davantage que ce système d'apaisement, pour n'être pas d'un effet immédiat, n'en atteint pas moins le but de la pacification complète de l'île, où fonctionne déjà d'une manière régulière une administration qui a ses ramifications dans tous les districts. Ces mesures, dit son Altesse, produiront les résultats les plus complets et les plus prompts, si le transport des familles cesse définitivement. C'est là que se trouve aujourd'hui le nœud de la question Crétoise.

Le Gouvernement Impérial ne s'est pas trompé sur les conséquences d'une pareille intervention lorsqu'il a protesté contre elle dès qu'elle s'est produite pour la première fois. Depuis ses protestations ont été renouvelées, et, malgré le démenti infligé par les faits aux bruits mensongers qui l'ont amenée, elle n'a pas, à l'heure qu'il est, complètement cessé. Aujourd'hui, plus que jamais, il est en droit de demander où se trouve le mobile humanitaire d'une pareille mesure ? Les familles qui en ont été l'objet gémissent aujourd'hui sur le sol étranger. Les souffrances cruelles auxquelles elles sont exposées font un devoir d'humanité aux Puissances, qui se sont intéressées à leur sort, de faire cesser un état de choses qui est absolument contraire au but qu'elles ont voulu atteindre.

Nous pouvons dire hardiment aujourd'hui que la pacification de l'île est complète. Un Gouvernement régulier fonctionne sans aucune entrave ; une protection efficace est donnée à tous les habitants qui ne sont pas sous la pression de quelques bandes qui veulent maintenir le drapeau de la révolte sur les sommets des montagnes. Nous n'hésitons pas à déclarer aussi que le jour où cessera cette excitation du dehors, qui était la seule et unique cause de ces événements—le jour où disparaîtra ce signe d'un encouragement moral que les bandes voient dans l'apparition des pavillons étrangers—on n'entendra plus en Europe ce qu'on appelle la question de Candie, et les milliers de familles qui gémissent sur le sol étranger viendront trouver dans leur pays le soulagement et le bien-être que la Sublime Porte leur propose.

Nous sommes fermement convaincus que les Puissances, édifiées sur la véritable situation de l'île et sur la ferme résolution du Gouvernement Impérial de maintenir ses droits et de faire ce qui est possible pour réparer les maux dont les malheureux habitants de Candie ont souffert, voudront bien faire disparaître toutes ces causes qui n'auront d'autre mérite que de faire prolonger une souffrance qui doit peser sur tous les cœurs.

Dans ce but, je vous prie, M. l'Ambassadeur, tout en lui communiquant la traduction du Rapport de son Altesse le Grand Vizir, de lire cette dépêche à son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) FUAD.

N 2

Inclosure in No. 80.

Report by Aali Pasha respecting his Mission to the Island of Crete.

A Sa Majesté le Sultan.

Sire,

LORSQUE, il y a cinq mois, votre Majesté daigna me confier la mission d'établir les bases de la nouvelle organisation administrative et judiciaire de l'Ile de Crète, et de m'enquérir des besoins légitimes de ses habitants, elle a donné une preuve nouvelle et irrécusable de son ardente sollicitude pour le bonheur de tous ses sujets, sans distinction de race ni de religion, et de déférence pour les conseils de l'Europe, en même temps qu'elle a voulu marquer une limite infranchissable à toutes les prétentions attentatoires à son autorité souveraine et à l'intégrité de l'empire.

Le moment est venu de rendre compte à votre Majesté du résultat de mes efforts pour traduire en faits ses intentions paternelles et magnanimes.

Si je n'ai pas le bonheur d'apporter à votre Majesté la nouvelle de la complète et entière pacification de toutes les parties de la Crète, j'ai cependant la satisfaction de pouvoir affirmer encore une fois et de la manière la plus positive que la mission dont votre Majesté a daigné m'investir n'a nullement échoué, comme les amis de l'insurrection et ses dupes cherchent à le faire croire ici comme en Europe. Je n'éprouve aucune hésitation à donner l'assurance que les mesures prises d'ordre de votre Majesté produiront les résultats les plus complets et les plus prompts, si le transport des familles cesse définitivement; elles triompheront non moins sûrement, quoique plus lentement, si cette immixtion regrettable continue.

L'histoire de l'insurrection Crétoise est trop complexe, elle est trop intimement liée aux errements des idées contemporaines; elle présente à un trop haut degré le spectacle étrange de l'alliance, commune aujourd'hui, entre ceux qui représentent en Europe les principes conservateurs, et ceux qui ont en vue la destruction de tous les principes d'ordre politique et social, l'anéantissement du droit et le triomphe de l'anarchie; elle est trop féconde en enseignements, pour qu'il n'y ait pas un puissant intérêt à établir, avant tout, les causes qui l'ont produite, et à suivre ces causes dans leurs manifestations. Ce sera établir en même temps le point de départ de ma mission.

Ces causes sont au nombre de trois :—

La première, qui n'est, à proprement parler, qu'une apparence de prétexte, est le mécontentement attribué aux populations.

La seconde est la grande idée Pan-Hellénique, cette Utopie irréalisable, exploitée au profit exclusif d'autres ambitions; elle est une ramification du travail souterrain qui mine la plupart des Etats Européens, à l'aide d'un instrument nouveau; le principe des nationalités, principe dangereux, que la Turquie n'admettra jamais, et qui sort, en Crète, de masque à une guerre de religion. En effet, les populations Crétoises parlent toutes la même langue, la religion seule les sépare; les Musulmans étant aussi autochtrones que les Chrétiens.

La troisième réside dans la pression exercée sur les Cabinets, amis de la Turquie, par l'opinion publique, égarée au moyen d'un système inouï de mensonges et de calomnies, propagés par la voie des journaux; elle a donné lieu à un mode d'intervention également nouveau, connu désormais sous le nom de sauvetage de familles, dont le résultat évident est de donner aux insurgés la liberté de leurs mouvements, en écartant d'eux tous les soucis de la famille, et, en même temps, les conseils de soumission que donneraient les souffrances de femmes, d'enfants, et de vieillards suppliants.

Il est une quatrième cause, qui préexiste à toutes les autres, qui domine toutes choses en Orient, et que votre Majesté reconnaîtra à la simple énonciation.

Il suffit de voir à l'œuvre chacune de ces causes pour déterminer la part d'influence qui revient à chacune d'elles sur la situation de l'Ile de Crète et pour accuser les obstacles qui, dans leur ensemble artificieusement combiné, avant mon arrivée, devaient compliquer ma tâche.

Chemin faisant, les faits protesteront d'eux-mêmes contre les accusations calomnieuses dont l'armée Impériale a été poursuivie et contre le reproche de faiblesse adressé an Gouvernement.

Et d'abord, le mécontentement des populations; en quoi était-il fondé?

La Crète est, de toutes les provinces de l'empire, la plus reculée vers l'Occident. Elle a un climat favorable et des productions d'une grande richesse.

Tous ceux qui ont vu l'île avant l'insurrection ont pu juger de sa réelle prospérité. L'accroissement de la population, malgré de fréquentes émigrations, suffirait pour en attester. L'impôt était d'un quart moins lourd que dans les autres provinces de l'empire.

Il n'a jamais dépassé, en Crète, la somme de 40 piastres par tête d'habitant, tandis que, partout ailleurs, il s'élevait, en moyenne, à environ 60 piastres. Cette différence provient de ce que, par une faveur toute spéciale, les Crétois avaient été affranchis de l'impôt sur le revenu (verghi). La liberté des cultes, si complète en Turquie, était largement pratiquée en Crète ; la population Musulmane, ayant engagé son activité et ses capitaux dans des transactions commerciales et industrielles, réalisait ainsi la fusion des deux éléments sur le terrain des intérêts matériels.

Les griefs exposés dans la Pétition adressée à votre Majesté en date du 14 Mai, 1866, viennent à l'appui de cet exposé. A vrai dire, il n'y avait là qu'apparence de prétextes, puisque les signataires de la Pétition du 14 Mai sont les mêmes qui ont signé le 15 Mai la circulaire aux Puissances, par laquelle ils demandaient l'annexion de l'île à la Grèce. C'est donc ailleurs qu'il faut rechercher la véritable origine de l'insurrection.

En Turquie, la liberté de l'enseignement n'est pas moins absolue que la liberté religieuse. Grâce à cette liberté, la propagande Pan-Hellénique a pu faire des adeptes, en se servant, comme de missionnaires, des instituteurs recrutés à Athènes. L'enseignement des doctrines politiques qui ont cours en Grèce, aidé par les prédications d'une partie du clergé, indigène ou étranger, introduisit graduellement, par infiltration, la maladie de l'Hellènisme dans l'esprit des populations, ignorantes d'ailleurs et faciles à exploiter, au profit d'une idée dont la réalisation leur était présentée, sous toutes les formes, comme un gage absolu de félicité. Voilà la cause morale de l'insurrection.

Que si l'on veut y ajouter des causes matérielles, on les trouvera dans les faits suivants, importants à signaler à attention des esprits honnêtes :—

Avant l'insurrection, les dettes entre particuliers s'élevaient, en Crète, à environ 150,000,000 piastres, et, sur cette somme, la population Musulmane était créancière de plus des deux-tiers. Il y avait en outre un certain nombre d'hommes, ayant un intérêt personnel à secouer le joug du Gouvernement, pour se soustraire aux obligations qu'ils avaient contractées envers le trésor en leur qualité d'adjudicataires de la dîme. Plusieurs des principaux chefs de bandes sont dans ce cas. Cette situation fit naître chez les uns la pensée de s'affranchir de leur dette, et, dans la masse Chrétienne, l'espoir de s'enrichir au détriment de la population Musulmane qu'on comptait expulser de l'île, en même temps qu'aurait lieu l'annexion à la Grèce.

C'est à cette espérance coupable, et aux moyens mis en œuvre pour la réaliser, qu'il faut attribuer la destruction systématique des propriétés et des récoltes appartenant aux Musulmans, ainsi que les vengeances privées qui ont signalé la révolte Crétoise, et qui forcèrent les habitants Musulmans à se réfugier dans les forteresses : on pensait qu'il serait plus facile un jour de les déterminer à abandonner des ruines fumantes et des vergers rasés que des propriétés florissantes.

Si l'Europe eût connu ces actes odieux, elle s'en fût indignée : il a donc fallu la tromper, et la révolte, qui comptait, en Grèce seulement, 117 journaux à son service, s'en est servie très-habilement pour imputer à la barbarie Musulmane la destruction des propriétés. En outre, les individus tués dans les combats livrés contre les troupes Impériales furent représentés comme des victimes inoffensives.

L'Europe crut aux mensonges, systématiquement débités par la presse Hellénique avec une prodigieuse audace, sans soupçonner qu'elle était victime d'une spéculation sur sa bonne foi. Il eut été bien facile pourtant de s'édifier sur la valeur de ces calomnies, en se souvenant de l'adage Romain, " Le coupable est celui à qui le crime profite."

Comment admettre que les populations Musulmanes, dont la fortune reposait sur les plantations d'oliviers, directement par le droit de propriété, indirectement par les créances hypothécaires ou commerciales, se fussent livrées de gaité de cœur à l'anéantissement du gage de leur fortune ? N'est-il pas plus croyable que ceux-là sont les auteurs des incendies qui, voulant s'affranchir du payement de leurs dettes et expulser la population Musulmane, avaient seuls intérêt à commettre le crime ?

Des représailles furent commises, et qui pourrait s'en étonner ? Toutefois, c'est à tort qu'on en a fait remonter la responsabilité au Gouvernement Impérial et à la religion Musulmane.

C'est ici, surtout, qu'il faut ne pas oublier que, dans l'Ile de Crète, il y a, aux prises, des hommes, Musulmans et Chrétiens, rapprochés de l'état de nature, incapables, par conséquent, d'imposer silence à leurs passions et à leurs intérêts, pour mettre en pratique la tolérance et la charité qui font l'essence de leurs religions respectives.

Il y a de plus à faire la part des nécessités de la guerre, nécessités déplorables, mais auxquelles sont exposés, partout, ceux qui prennent les armes contre le Gouvernement de leur pays.

Il convenait d'insister sur des faits, qui ont ému l'opinion publique contribué à exagérer hors de toute proportion l'importance de l'affaire Crétoise.

Cependant, le Pan-Hellénisme, que j'ai signalé comme ayant la plus grande part de responsabilité dans cette affaire, mettait en œuvre toutes ses ressources. J'ai indiqué le rôle joué par la presse. Des comités se formèrent, qui recueillirent des souscriptions en Grèce et dans les colonies Grecques. Des sommes considérables furent consacrées à l'acquisition d'armes, de munitions de guerre et de bouche, à l'enrôlement de volontaires, qui, dit-on, n'appartenaient pas tous à l'élite de la population. On vit des navires armés sortir des ports d'une Puissance voisine pour ravitailler la révolte, sans que cette violation du droit des gens et de la morale la plus élémentaire fut précédée d'une dénonciation des relations diplomatiques.

Tant de choses insolites ont accompagné l'insurrection Crétoise qu'il me paraît inutile d'insister sur ce scandale particulier.

Aussi bien, ce précédent portera ses fruits, comme tant d'autres, qui ont ébranlé le respect des Traités et dont les principes de droit international et d'ordre public ont eu à souffrir dans ces derniers temps.

C'est ici le lieu de répondre aux accusations de faiblesse élevées contre le Gouvernement Impérial. Fallait-il déclarer la guerre à la Grèce, ou, ce qui revenait au même, atteindre les navires pirates dans les ports mêmes qui leur servaient de refuge ?

Certes, le Gouvernement Impérial était dans son droit, et votre Majesté n'aurait pas hésité à le faire valoir, même au risque de la guerre, sans l'intérêt très-grand qui s'est manifesté ailleurs dès l'origine du conflit. On se souvient des démarches, identiques dans leurs bases, faites en vue d'obtenir l'annexion de l'île à la Grèce.

La manière dont le Gouvernement a entendu ses devoirs et ses droits dans la question Crétoise doit imposer silence à toutes les calomnies et lui assurer les sympathies de l'histoire.

Tant que l'Europe continuera à être régie par le droit universel et les Traités, qui donc oserait nier au Gouvernement la possession indépendante de l'Ile de Crète ?

Serait-ce qu'on voulût sacrifier le droit de conquête au profit du droit nouveau des nationalités ? Mais qui ne voit qu'il faudrait renouveler la carte de l'Europe, et plonger la politique dans le chaos ? La Crète a été réunie à la Turquie, longtemps avant que telles provinces, appartenant à telles Puissances Européennes, fussent conquises par ces dernières. Est-ce à dire que ces Puissances soient décidées à sacrifier leurs propres droits, et que la concession, réclamée de la Turquie, doive devenir la règle en Europe ? Telle n'est pas sans doute la pensée des Cabinets : dès lors, pourquoi nous faire l'objet d'une théorie dont on ne voudrait pas pour soi-même, au détriment des plus grands intérêts Européens ? Serait-ce que la situation respective des provinces conquises fût différente ailleurs, parce que, en Crète, il y a incompatibilité de langue et de religion entre le Gouvernement et les administrés ? Mais il y a des Musulmans qui sont sujets d'Etats Chrétiens, et des Catholiques dans des pays d'orthodoxie. Serait-ce l'antipathie naturelle du vaincu pour le vainqueur ? Qui oserait dire qu'elle est plus grande ici que là ? Serait-ce que la possession fût contraire aux Traités ? Mais, sans remonter bien haut, un des actes diplomatiques contemporains les plus considérables, le Traité de Paris, signé il y a douze ans à peine, consacre le principe de l'intégrité de l'Empire Ottoman et place cette intégrité sous la garantie collective des Puissances. Or, la Crète fait partie de l'Empire, et il y a lieu de s'étonner que l'on ait pu s'attendre à voir le Gouvernement Imperial déchirer de ses propres mains un Traité conclu au prix des plus grands sacrifices, au risque d'autoriser par ce précédent toutes les revendications ultérieures, et de donner lui-même le signal d'un démembrement.

Le Gouvernement Impérial a la conscience, qu'en maintenant résolument ses droits sur l'Ile de Crète, il a fait un acte de conservation Européenne ; car, les arguments invoqués pour lui arracher cette province ne tendent à rien moins qu'à la remise en question des bases mêmes de l'ordre public, résultat d'un travail sanglant accompli à travers les siècles, et à ramener la civilisation en arrière, en substituant de nouveau la force brutale au droit.

Ces raisons puissantes se sont imposées au Gouvernement Impérial. En soutenant la lutte localisée en Crète, il croit avoir défendu le principe même de son existence partout menacée, et il s'est résigné à attendre, pour voir triompher sa juste cause, que le temps fasse alliance avec le droit.

A-t-il eu tort d'agir ainsi ? L'avenir le dira.

En tous cas, le Gouvernement de votre Majesté repousse énergiquement le reproche de faiblesse qui lui a été imputé. Le fait est, que l'Ile de Crète est en notre pouvoir, et que l'insurrection, malgré les efforts de la Grèce, malgré la sorte de coalition qui a paralysé l'action de l'armée et de la flotte Impériales, est réduite à l'impuissance. Quel Gouvernement pourrait se flatter de réduire promptement la révolte d'une de ses

provinces, aussi défavorable aux opérations militaires que l'Ile de Crète, mesurant 160 lieues de côtes, recevant l'appui matériel d'un pays voisin, et longtemps défendue par l'opinion publique abusée ?

Et pourtant, au moins de Juillet 1867, le feu de l'insurrection allait s'éteindre, lorsqu'une troisième cause vint lui fournir un aliment inattendu.

C'était au moment où Omer Pacha venait d'emporter les hauteurs de Sfakia, qui servaient de boulevard et de place d'armes à la révolte. Alors les demandes de soumission affluaient de toutes parts, les volontaires étrangers songeaient à quitter l'Ile de Crète, et le Gouvernement Impérial était fondé à compter sur un retour immédiat à la tranquillité normale.

La malveillance inventa un massacre général des femmes, des enfants, et des vieillards, et quelques Puissances donnèrent ordre à leurs bâtiments de guerre, en station dans la Méditerranée, d'effectuer, sous le nom de sauvetage, le transport de ces pauvres créatures menacées dans leur vie, dans leur honneur, et dans leurs biens.

Cette mesure, entreprise dans un but philanthropique, continuée jusqu'à ces derniers temps par l'escadre Russe, a exercé et exerce encore sur l'affaire Crétoise une influence trop considérable pour que le Gouvernement de votre Majesté n'ait pas le droit de voir en elle une intervention déguisée.

Sans faire ressortir combien cette intervention, pratiquée au nom de l'humanité qui ne s'enquiert pas de la religion des malheureux, était injuste et partiale puisqu'elle n'avait en vue de protéger exclusivement que les familles Chrétiennes, alors que les familles Musulmanes étaient au même degré atteintes par les calamités de la guerre, il est utile de constater ses résultats immédiats.

La revolte reprit courage, car, si le Gouvernement Impérial put se croire en présence d'une intervention Européenne, la même pensée prévalut dans le camp de la révolte. Nous en avons eu la preuve dans une recrudescence belliqueuse des bandes, dans les ovations qui furent faites aux Ministres étrangers à Athènes, dans les adresses de reconnaissance, votées par les Comités Philhelléniques, et dans les déclarations du Premier Ministre de la Grèce au Parlement de son pays, le 3 Décembre, 1867.

Cette déclaration va jusqu'à mettre en doute le motif d'humanité invoqué par les Puissances : "Est-ce à une pensée philanthropique, Messieurs, qu'il faut attribuer le transport des familles ?"

Sans partager le doute du Chef du Cabinet d'Athènes, il est permis de se demander si le but humanitaire, poursuivi par l'Europe, a été atteint. A voir les familles Crétoises traîner sur le sol Hellénique une vie misérable, à voir les ravages que la mort exerce parmi elles, on ne peut que déplorer un mouvement généreux qui, indépendamment des abus inévitables dont il a été la cause, n'a eu d'autre effet que d'introduire, dans la pratique internationale, un mode d'intervention inouï, compliqué de la violation d'un blocus effectif, et d'empêcher un retour immédiat à la tranquillité normale.

Il est vrai que les Puissances revinrent successivement d'un premier élan d'humanité, soit que, mieux édifiées sur la véritable situation de la Crète, elles crussent devoir s'abstenir de toute immixtion, soit que la réflexion leur eût démontré les conséquences dangereuses qu'un pareil précédent aura nécessairement sur l'avenir de la politique.

La Russe seule crut devoir persister.

Votre Majesté reconnaîtra par cet exposé des causes qui ont amené et entretenu dans l'Ile de Crète la situation anormale à laquelle ma mission avait pour objet de remédier, que, parmi ces causes, les trois principales, prenant au dehors leur inspiration et leur point d'appui, échappaient à mon action directe et ne pouvaient être combattues efficacement que par le contraste des moyens de résistance. A des difficultés médiates et insaisissables, il a fallu répondre par la modération, l'esprit de progrès, et une justice clémente ; il a fallu répondre au mensonge et à la calomnie par la lente apparition de la vérité.

Votre Majesté a pu se rendre compte, par mes rapports périodiques et par les documents que j'y ai joints, de tous les détails de mes opérations. Il me suffit dès lors d'en reproduire les principaux traits.

Mon premier acte, en arrivant dans l'Ile de Crète (4 Octobre, 1867), après avoir confirmé, d'ordre de votre Majesté, l'amnistie et la trève proclamées par le Serdar-i-Ekrem, Omer Pacha, fut un acte de justice. Je procédai aussitôt à l'élargissement des prisonniers dont la détention remontait à la reddition des grottes de Sfakia et auxquels s'appliquait l'amnistie générale. En outre, et malgré les graves inconvénients qui pouvaient résulter d'une mesure d'humanité inopportune, j'ai cru devoir adoucir, dans de justes limites, l'interdiction qui pesait sur les villages suspects de s'approvisionner dans les villes, afin de soustraire aux rigueurs des mesures militaires la catégorie des personnes inoffensives.

Des secours en argent et en nature furent alloués aux habitants Musulmans et

Chrétiens qui avaient été obligés de déserter leurs propriétés pour chercher un refuge dans les forteresses. L'hygiène publique fut astreinte à des règles nécessaires pour conjurer les dangers provenant de l'entassement des populations et des troupes sur des territoires rétrécis.

Après avoir satisfait ainsi, dans la mesure du possible, à des nécessités matérielles qui s'imposaient d'urgence, comme la trève n'expirait qu'à la date du 1 Novembre, le temps fut mis à profit pour étudier un plan de protection des habitants, désireux de rentrer dans l'ordre, contre les cruelles et impitoyables molestations des bandes.

Dès l'abord, il se présentait deux systèmes de pacification dont l'un consistait en une répression générale et l'autre en des mesures de prévention.

Le second système m'a paru le seul qui répondit aux exigences réelles de la situation. A mon arrivée dans l'Ile de Crète la population pouvait être rangée en trois catégories : la première, la plus nombreuse, fatiguée du désordre auquel elle n'avait pris aucune part active, sincèrement désireuse de voir l'ordre rétabli ; la seconde hésitante et timorée, craignant, par dessus tout, les vengeances et les représailles dont la révolte menaçait sa soumission ; la troisième, enfin, réunissait tous les individus intéressés dans le désordre. En cet état, la répression par les armes devenait impossible, l'ordre formel de votre Majesté étant d'éviter l'effusion du sang, hormis le cas de nécessité absolue, afin de ne pas exposer des innocents à pâtir pour les coupables.

Sans me dissimuler les difficultés et les lenteurs d'un mode de pacification par les voies de la prudence et de l'apaisement, je fis élaborer toutes les mesures de détail réclamées pour son exécution, dans la conviction, que je partage encore aujourd'hui, qu'il finira par triompher complètement de toutes les difficultés.

Je prends la liberté de répéter à votre Majesté, que tous les hommes compétents et instruits dans la pratique des choses de la Crète sont unanimes à déclarer que le plan adopté est le seul qui offre les plus fortes garanties de réussite, en dépit des obstacles suscités par la malveillance, et de l'appui extérieur prêté à la révolte.

Les résultats, que sa mise en pratique m'a permis de constater font prévoir, dans un avenir rapproché, la soumission complète de certaines parties de la Crète, encore exposées au joug des bandes. Un des avantages de ce plan consiste en ce que les routes stratégiques, dont il a nécessité la construction, pour faciliter les opérations rapides des corps de troupes chargés de protéger les habitants soumis, serviront plus tard à développer le mouvement agricole et commercial de l'île.

Comme corrollaire à ces mesures préventives, lors de l'expiration de la trève le 2 Novembre, je lançai ma seconde Proclamation, par laquelle je confirmai encore une fois les dispositions clémentes de votre Majesté à l'égard de ses sujets égarés, en l'accompagnant de la publication du règlement préparé à Constantinople, pour servir de base à la constitution future de l'Ile de Crète.

J'invitai les habitants à nommer librement quatre représentants par district, deux dans chaque communauté, et à les envoyer au chef-lieu pour être réunis en Assemblée Générale, afin de concerter entre eux les moyens de satisfaire à toutes les exigences réalisables de la situation et de les proposer par mon intermédiaire à la sanction de votre Majesté.

En même temps j'invitai les populations, revenues à de meilleurs sentiments, à réclamer la protection des troupes,

Ces dispositions furent suivies d'un résultat immédiat. Dès le 3 Novembre, les habitants de Lacos offrirent leur soumission, à la condition d'être protégés contre les vengeances dont les bandes ne manqueraient pas de poursuivre leur défection à la cause de la révolte.

Ce résultat avait son importance, car les Lakiotes ont toujours marché à la tête des rebelles et c'était de leur village qu'était parti le signal du dernier soulèvement. Je ne crus pouvoir faire un meilleur choix pour le commandement des troupes dans ce district et l'inauguration du système appliqué qu'en la personne de Raouf Pacha, Aide-de-camp et Premier Ecuyer de votre Majesté. Cet officier général mérite une mention particulière pour l'intelligence et le zèle, la prudence et la modération qu'il a apportés dans l'accomplissement de cette mission.

J'obéis à un devoir de conscience, en profitant de cette occasion pour témoigner hautement devant votre Majesté, du dévouement et de l'abnégation déployés par tous les officiers-généraux de l'armée de Crète, pour seconder mes efforts de pacification. Leur conduite prudente et humaine est un démenti éclatant aux calomnies des détracteurs de de notre vaillante armée.

Le 23 Novembre eut lieu l'ouverture de l'Assemblée Générale Crétoise. Cette première séance fut consacrée à la lecture du premier Firman et du Règlement Fondamental. Je profitai de cette circonstance pour bien faire comprendre aux députés

le but de leur convocation et les engager à faire le sacrifice de toutes les rivalités de castes et de religions pour concourir unanimement à la réorganisation de leur patrie sur le terrain de l'intérêt matériel bien entendu.

Dans les différentes séances qui eurent lieu et auxquelles j'ai assisté, je me suis surtout appliqué à dégager toutes les arrières-pensées, en provoquant franchement les explications et en permettant à la vérité de se produire, sans aucun souci de la forme, du préjugé et de l'étiquette.

Sur ces entrefaites, les nominations du nouveau personnel gouvernemental et administratif ayant obtenu la sanction de votre Majesté, le Gouvernement définitif de la Crète fut installé le 3 Décembre.

Le 8 Décembre je me rendis à Candie afin de juger par moi-même de l'état des choses dans cette province et m'assurer que mes instructions avaient été exécutées dans le sens du programme adopté.

C'est à Candie que me parvint une demande des habitants de Zourva, village voisin de Lacos, sollicitant la destruction de leurs propres habitations, afin de ne plus être tyrannisés par les bandes qui y avaient établi leur refuge.

La position de Zourva, étant par elle-même inexpugnable, offrait aux bandes à la fois un refuge et une base d'opérations, d'où elles s'élançaient pour exercer leurs déprédations et leurs ravages sur les villages inférieurs, soumis à l'autorité. Je crus devoir autoriser immédiatement cette mesure d'ordre militaire. Toutes les autres qui ont été entreprises pendant mon séjour en Crète avaient un caractère purement défensif et se rattachaient au plan de protection poursuivi.

Le 20 Décembre eut lieu l'installation des autorités Impériales à Apocorona et Mirambello.

Malgré les instances réitérées des habitants, cette double opération avait dû être retardée jusqu'à l'arrivée des approvisionnements demandés à Constantinople.

Je rentrai à la Canée le 26 Décembre : le 4 Janvier, je donnai connaissance à l'Assemblée Générale Crétoise du Firman de votre Majesté, concernant l'exemption de la dîme et de la contribution militaire.

Enfin le 15 Février eut lieu la séance de clôture de cette Assemblée, dans laquelle je donnai lecture du dernier Firman de votre Majesté, récapitulatif de l'ensemble des concessions accordées aux Crétois, réglant l'administration générale, la justice et le système financier, établissant des règles de compétence pour chacun des services, et concédant exemption d'impôts pour deux années, réduction des dîmes à 50 pour cent pendant les deux années subséquentes avec affectation de la totalité de cette moitié du revenu public aux besoins locaux.

En résumé, voici la situation actuelle de l'Ile de Crète :—

Husséïn Avni Pacha, Gouverneur-Général et Commandant Suprême des troupes Impériales, reste chargé de continuer l'œuvre à laquelle l'ont initié trois mois de collaboration effective. Pendant ce temps j'ai eu l'occasion d'apprécier chez lui les rares qualités militaires et le tempérament essentiellement politique qui me permettent de le recommander à votre Majesté comme un homme à toute épreuve, dont le talent et le caractère garantissent le succès contre toutes les éventualités de l'avenir.

Un Sous-Gouvernement composé, en nombre égal, de Musulmans et de Chrétiens, choisis parmi les fonctionnaires les plus intelligents et les plus expérimentés, étend ses ramifications sur tous les districts sans exception.

Il a pour mission expresse de satisfaire à tous les besoins moraux et matériels des populations, sous la seule réserve de maintenir dans leur intégrité les lois fondamentales de l'Empire et les droits souverains de votre Majesté. Sa ligne de conduite est tracée dans des Règlements mûrement élaborés et revêtus de la sanction de votre Majesté.

Les populations elles-mêmes participent aux affaires publiques, dans une mesure égale à ce qui se pratique dans les pays les plus avancés en civilisation.

Elles ont le droit de contrôler l'impôt par l'organe de Représentants ; ces Représentants sont nommés par le suffrage universel dans chaque communauté ; ils forment les Conseils particuliers de chaque district et, par leur réunion, le Conseil-Général, qui discute les intérêts de l'île entière.

Une justice élective tranche les contestations privées, punit les délits et les crimes, et sauvegarde l'honneur et la fortune des citoyens.

L'initiative et la responsabilité Gouvernementales ne vont pas, en matière judiciaire, au-delà de l'exécution des sentences.

Le Gouvernement est fondé à déclarer que le régime politique et administratif appliqué à l'Ile de Crète est celui du "self-government" dans la plus démocratique acception de ce mot.

Sans aucun doute, si les mœurs publiques étaient à la hauteur des droits nouveaux,

les populations rendraient à votre Majesté, en reconnaissance et en dévouement, les avantages inappréciables qu'elle a daigné leur octroyer.

A l'heure présente, la pacification complète et la réorganisation de l'Ile de Crète tendent à triompher des obstacles extérieurs, suscités par la malveillance et la convoitise.

Les habitants Musulmans, qui avaient été contraints de se réfugier dans les forteresses, pourront retourner dans leurs foyers à mesure que les cercles militaires s'élargiront.

Les émigrés de Sitia et de Yérapétra vont bientôt rentrer dans leur patrie, et ceux de Mounoficio ne tarderont pas à les suivre.

Ma mission est donc terminée.

Ce qui reste à faire est l'œuvre du temps.

Le temps seul permettra de cicatriser des plaies douloureuses, de relever les ruines de la guerre civile, de rendre à l'agriculture, au commerce et à l'industrie leur ancienne prospérité, d'éteindre les haines privées, d'éclairer les esprits égarés sur leurs véritables intérêts, et d'établir au grand jour que le Gouvernement de votre Majesté est aussi sincère dans l'application des mesures libérales et progressives que fermement résolu à affirmer sa dignité et à maintenir ses droits.

Je suis, &c.
Le Grand Vezir,
Constantinople, le 1 *Mars,* 1868. (Signé) AALI.

CRETE.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Disturbances in Crete.

(In continuation of Correspondence presented to Parliament, December 2, 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

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REPORTS

BY

CONSUL-GENERAL LONGWORTH

RESPECTING THE

ISLAND OF CRETE:

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Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated March 19, 1868.

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RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated March 19, 1868;

for—

"Copy of such portions of any Report or Reports made by Consul-General Longworth in the year 1858, as relate to the affairs of the Island of Crete."

No. 1.

Extracts from Report by Consul Longworth on the Primary Causes of the Insurrection in Crete.

Canea in Crete, August 20, 1858.

IT is well known that previously to the outbreak in Candia there had been some discontent and increasing disaffection to the Government of Vely Pasha; still nothing serious would probably have occurred, had not the attempt to levy the "thani asskerizye," a military contribution, caused a disturbance which the factious and personal enemies of that functionary took advantage of to effect his ruin. The revolution in fact was brought about for that purpose.

The tax in question is imposed in commutation of military service to which it has been decided the Christian subjects of the Porte are liable, but which as a practical measure, presented many difficulties. In Crete, therefore, as in other parts of the Empire, orders had been issued to the authorities to levy this tax; it was very moderate in amount, and as the Cretans could not complain of being heavily taxed in other respects, having only to pay the "cushr," or tithe on agricultural produce, there could be no reasonable objection to it. Few Mussulman communities would decline to purchase exemption from military service on the same terms. Blunders, however, were made in the mode of collecting it.

By the Imperial Firman on the subject first published here in January, it was decreed that 5,000 piastres should be raised for each man liable to military service, but that it should be adjusted amicably and by common consent in such a way as to divide the burden equitably according to the means of each member of the community. The collectors of the tax, thus left to themselves, proved a source of difficulty, nor was the matter mended by the well-meant endeavours of Vely Pasha to assist and direct them in the task of assessment. He, on the contrary, drew great odium on himself thereby. On a fair estimate it had been found that the tax upon the basis adopted by the Government would come to 900,000 piastres per annum, which, equally divided among the male population of the island, would amount to ten piastres and twenty-seven paras per head, and as this is not much more than the daily wages of a labouring man, it cannot be considered heavy. It was, in fact, not more in amount than two-thirds of the "haradj" or capitation tax formerly paid by Christians, without taking into consideration the diminished value of money. But the circumstances which rendered it onerous and more than anything else excited resistance to it, was that in addition to the tax of the current year, the arrears of the two previous years, which owing to the unsettled question of the conscription had been allowed to accumulate, were demanded in one payment. Vely Pasha, I am told, had ineffectually exerted himself to obtain from the Government a modification of this demand, and a substitution of payment by instalments. In the meanwhile, the indiscretion of some of the Agents of the Governors sent to collect the tax in the villages tended to alarm and exasperate the inhabitants. One of them, a certain Mahmoud Effendi, went so far as to tell them they would not only have to pay the tax in question, but that many others, such as "salianeh" or property tax paid in other parts of the Empire, would in future be exacted from them. Now there were, unfortunately, circumstances which lent a colour to this announcement. A census had a short time before been taken by the order of the Government, and this included returns not only of population, but of property, of vineyards, olive trees, cattle, &c. Some excitement, therefore, prevailed; some of the villagers angrily retorted the violent language of Mahmoud Effendi, and threatened to take up arms and retire to the mountains. It would have been wise in the Pasha to overlook these threats, or if he had visited them upon anybody, it should have been on his own agent who had provoked them. But he hastened to the spot and seized five of these

offenders, who were subsequently tried, condemned and shipped to Constantinople. Their relations and neighbours vainly interceded for them, the Pasha would not relent, and his proceedings on this occasion were considered harsh and arbitrary; freedom of speech is not usually punished with such severity in Turkey.

Such was the commencement of the commotion which certain parties at Parieà, the enemies of the Pasha, did their utmost to inflame.

It would be most unjust to Vely Pasha, on the other hand, to refuse him credit for his endeavours to promote the prosperity of the island, to civilize the inhabitants, and insure a greater measure of toleration for the Christians.

He not only encouraged the building of churches, schools, and hospitals, but liberally contributed from his own funds for such purposes. He caused physicians to be brought from Constantinople that the poor might receive medical aid at the expense of the Government. He strove to advance the interests of trade, established buoys at the entrance of the harbour of Canea, introduced cranes, improved the lighthouse and Custom-house.

For the first time during his administration the streets of the town were lighted up at night and the houses numbered.

To keep the mouth of the harbour free from obstruction he was latterly engaged, at great trouble and expense, in constructing a dredging machine on a large scale.

He had projected a system of roads, and one of those was actually being made on scientific principles under the direction of an English engineer, Mr. Woodward.

The Government of the Pasha was in other respects humane and liberal. He exerted himself strenuously, and with good faith, to put a stop to the African Slave Trade.

By the whole black population of the isle he was looked up to as their best friend and benefactor. No other Turkish Pasha, that I have heard of, has shown so much indulgence and liberality to Christians. Yet with every claim on their goodwill and gratitude, it cannot be denied that he had for some time past incurred their dislike, and this grew finally into a feeling of hostility.

With his taste for improvement they had no enlightened sympathy: when it was first proposed to make roads they showed even a childish enthusiasm for the subject, and poured in petitions for their instant accomplishment; but when it was seen that roads could not be made without labour or pecuniary sacrifice, they turned round and oppposed them, and there was no abuse too violent or fiction too absurd, which they did not lavish on everybody connected with them. There was, to say the least, much exaggeration in all this. That the whole of the money raised and debt incurred for the road to Retimo, amounting in all to about 2,000*l*., was scrupulously expended for that object, it would, considering the character of Turkish officials, be rash to affirm. But, looking at the results, and comparing them with what has been done in works of this kind elsewhere—for instance, Brussa and Trebizond (and I have visited them all, including the road at Retimo)—I can confidently assert that the latter, with reference to what has been executed, cost much less than the others. The scheme as regards capital and labour may not have been the best, though that, I believe, is doubtful.

For the construction of roads all over the island, the Pasha decided that every able-bodied male inhabitant should contribute either nine days' labour or its equivalent in money, 54 piastres the year. If, as has been suggested, instead of this mode of proceeding, a joint-stock company had been established, with a privilege to exact a toll, it is questionable whether the arrangement would have proved a bit more satisfactory.

In the Ionian Islands precisely the same plan as that adopted by the Pasha had been successfully carried out by the British Government. But the chief difficulty in road-making in Crete will always be with respect to an organised system of labour. The materials presented for such by an ignorant, idle, and turbulent population are of the very worst description. How Mr. Woodward, unassisted by skilled subordinates, and unfurnished with the commonest implements, has so far succeeded is a wonder to be explained only by inferences the most creditable to his good management and perseverance.

From this brief summary of the Pasha's essay at road-making we may judge of the spirit in which all his other attempts at improvement were viewed by the Cretans, who, like Easterns in general, are averse to change and innovation.

It is evident that the Pasha, seeking to make himself popular, in many instances mistook the way.

The whole duty of a Vizier, according to the primitive notions of the country, is much the same as it was some thousands of years ago, when the same dignitary used to sit in the King's gate and administer justice to the rich and poor. Indeed, the most serious complaint that has been brought against him is, that he was not sufficiently accessible, that he entrusted the adjudication of suits, civil and criminal, as well as the direction of the police, to the officers of his household, who were not more free than the common run

of Turkish functionaries from the imputation of venality. There may have been some truth in this, but the charge of entirely neglecting his duties, together with much of the scandal that has been built on it, was surely unnecessary, if only preferred to account for the way in which he spent his time.

The numerous undertakings in which he was engaged for the public benefit would offer a much more satisfactory explanation of the circumstance.

I have stated that the Pasha behaved with extraordinary liberality towards the orthodox Greeks; this was undoubtedly the case, and yet he has latterly been accused of persecuting them. The truth was that he began by humouring them too much, and this made them unreasonable. Church building, on which there were formerly restrictions, is now a sort of mania with them, and in this they were indulged to the utmost extent; they were allowed churches in any number, of all sizes and in all places. They were, even when they could not pay for this extravagance, gratified at his expense; he gave them both ground and money. Then, agreeably to the Hatti-Humayoun, Turks were permitted to turn Christians, and (what did not please them quite so much) Christians Turks. Even whole communities who, to escape persecution, had formerly professed Islamism were allowed openly to embrace Christianity; but still they were not satisfied.

These people who are always talking of Turkish fanaticism now sought to trample on it with a still fiercer fanaticism of their own. Not content with fair proselytism, they resorted to the most scandalous means of making converts.

Turkish girls were seduced from their families; plans of abduction were deliberately formed; and even a society of young men (among whom were some Ionian subjects, whose names have been mentioned to me) got up for the express purpose of carrying off these girls from their villages. Two of these cases, occurring at a short interval, caused great scandal and excitement, and Vely Pasha deemed it time to put a stop to such proceedings. Acting, however, as usual upon impulse, the steps he took were hasty and inconsiderate; they were marked, too, by a degree of sensitiveness and wounded pride which those in authority should be careful not to discover in their dealings with a subject class. He is accused among other things of having ordered the gates of the town to be shut to prevent the escape of one of these fugitives, and some of his cavasses, it is said, entered a Greek church in search of the other. His most imprudent act certainly was, after these affairs were in some manner settled, reviving the bad spirit they had produced, by openly proclaiming a measure of retaliation. In the course of last year a large sum of money had been placed in his hands by Said Pasha of Egypt, to be applied to charitable purposes in the Island of Crete. It was known to have been his original intention to have appropriated the whole of this fund to the building of a Greek Church; but, indignant at these excesses, he now decided that the fund should be distributed among the schools and hospitals of all Christian sects indiscriminately. The Greeks were much incensed at this. They pronounced him to have been always at bottom a bitter and irreclaimable fanatic, whose malignity had at length betrayed itself; but of their own conduct in these transactions, of the bigotry and bad faith they had displayed, they seemed altogether unconscious. When it had been finally determined that the women should be allowed to embrace the Christian faith, but that, to prevent discord and disorder, they should be sent away from the island, they, in defiance of the Pasha's authority, and the understanding previously come to between the British Embassy and the Porte, brought one of them back to Canea, and paraded her in procession through the streets, under the Christian name of Maria; and these are the people who complain of Turkish fanaticism. My object, however, in entering into these details has been less to show the real merits of this particular case than the state of public feeling at the time with reference to Vely Pasha.

Even allowing for this, it is difficult to see what there could be found in the Pasha's administration—what crime or grievous oppression—what outrage on the rights of property or religion—which could have so suddenly stirred the people to rebellion.

The levying of an insignificant tax, and wrangling about the assessment of it; a general objection to make or pay for roads; some squabbles about proselytism, in which the Christians appear to have had pretty much their own way; added to these, some long-standing abuses about the tithe on straw, and the interference of Mollahs in the administration of the inheritance of orphans;—all these are circumstances which, taken together, may account for some passing irritation and the unpopularity of the Pasha. But the breaking out into open insurrection could not have taken place without the agency of other causes.

The insurrection, it is universally acknowledged, first broke out at Lakos, a district about twelve miles distant from Canea. The person who took the lead in it, and was styled by the insurgents their Seraskier, was a certain Mavrojeni, who had been long employed as a zaptié in the police force of the town. His associates in the business (and

they were actually engaged in carrying messages backwards and forwards between the town and the villages) were—some of their names have been given me—Stellino Giorgaki, Hadji Kiriako, Carzoupa Baktrovardoni, all inhabitants of Ali-Kano.

As soon as Mavrojeni had erected the standard of revolt, and issued circulars to the surrounding districts, the acknowledged chiefs and capitani, and more particularly those of Sphakia, the most warlike province of Crete, taking umbrage at what they considered presumption on the part of an individual of so little consideration in the country, demanded to know by what authority he acted. The explanation he gave was, that through his means they could obtain the necessary support in those armed demonstrations. The chief condition of that support was, that they should insist on the removal of Vely Pasha. With this, however, it is well known they at first hesitated to comply—more than two-thirds of the assembled Cretans were opposed to it; and it was only when they had been given clearly to understand the support in question would be withheld if they did not do as they were required, that they at length consented to petition for the Pasha's recall.

It is, after all, probable that a movement thus hastily contrived for the purpose of getting rid of the Pasha would have proved no very serious affair, or have failed even in its object, had not the Pasha himself been deficient in resolution and presence of mind.

It is an incontestable fact that these armed multitudes assembled at first, and for more than a fortnight after, only in the neighbourhood of Canea. But the murder of two Albanians at Melbes, in the district of Amari Castelli, on the 17th of May, spread a sudden panic among the Turkish population of the villages, who began to flock into the towns of the sea-coast for shelter and protection. This was a movement of the most dangerous tendency, which ought to have been immediately checked by the Pasha. It was neither more nor less than the division of the people into two hostile camps, and the commencement of a war of nationality and religion in Crete.

During the Russian war in 1854, when the example of the insurrectionary movement in Epirus and Thessaly had excited the Greek population of the island, a similar panic had seized the Turks, and they began to descend with their families into the towns. But Mehemet Emin Pasha, who was the Governor, at once set his face against the measure, and not only refused them admission into the towns, but drove them back to their villages. By his prudent and energetic conduct on this occasion he saved the country from dreadful anarchy and bloodshed. Had Vely Pasha acted in the same manner, the tumult would in all probability have subsided, and the people, seeing nothing likely to result from it, would have been dispersed; but alarmed at his isolated position—at the armed multitudes outside of the town, and having, moreover, few regular troops for his defence, Vely Pasha, it is to be feared, did not act with sufficient promptitude in preventing the descent of the Turks into the towns. He is even accused of having promoted it. I have heard many conflicting statements on the subject, and am inclined to the belief that, through the agency of subordinates, he did encourage them to come both to Candia and to Retimo. In the latter place 500 guns were distributed to them by the authorities.

The effect of this weak and injudicious conduct was most unfortunate; for the insurrection, which till then had been very partial, became general. I have ascertained beyond a doubt at Candia and Retimo that till the Turks came into the towns the Greeks in all these provinces had not moved. The truth was that the commotion, having its origin at Canea, had been till then confined to its vicinity. Another still more remarkable feature of the business is that after the Greeks had everywhere risen, and the Turks had begun to commit excesses, destroying their olive-trees and vineyards, the former still continued to stand on the defensive, and apparently waiting for the interference or co-operation of other parties; certainly it was not the bearing of a people who had been goaded to rebellion by the intolerable oppression of their rulers.

Thus it is evident that Vely Pasha, by not opposing the flight of the Turks into the towns, had mainly contributed to give to the insurrection the formidable proportions which it finally assumed.

His conduct after the arrival of the Commissioners of the Porte is still more indefensible. For whatever reasons it had chosen to do so,—and they were no doubt dictated by necessity,—the Porte had given him up, and his only course was to resign his authority and retire with a good grace. But, apparently mortified at the triumph of his enemies, he tried to maintain his ground till the arrival of his successor, Sami Pasha, and he was in the meanwhile brought into constant collision with the Commissioners, who had made common cause with all who were hostile to him: the only party left for him to fall back upon were the Turks in the towns; and this it was which led to all the untoward consequences ending in the disgraceful riot of the 3rd July.

We come now to the part played by the Turkish Commissioners, Ahmed Pasha the

Admiral, and Renzi Effendi a civilian; to these was attached, as secretary and interpreter M. Adoosides, a Fanariote Greek. I have named these persons according to their rank, but if precedence were allowed to actual influence and capacity the order would have to be exactly inverted. The mission of these officials was one of concession and conciliation, and they well understood it to be so. They perfectly understood that their business was not with Vely Pasha or anybody connected with him; neither was it with the Turkish party nor the troops: it was with the insurgents themselves they had to deal, and the great question was how to get at them. It was a question, however, not very difficult to solve. There was a party which, whatever may have been its share in producing this state of things, had now evidently the threads of it in their hands; they were, according to the phrase usually employed on such occasions, entire masters of the position, and to them, accordingly, the Commissioners had recourse in their difficulties: but the negotiation necessarily involved a compromise, nor could any agreement be come to but on conditions if not openly stipulated at least well understood.

The removal of Vely Pasha was not included in these; that vital condition had already been obtained.

The Commissioners of the Porte, as I have already intimated, had many difficulties to contend with in their mission, which was entirely pacific. They had many humiliations to undergo, and hard conditions to accept, at the hands of friends and adversaries. They had to smooth the way also for the new Governor, their successor, but in their eagerness to come to terms they lost sight of their own dignity, and made more than one embarrassing concession.

In treating with the insurgents, Ahmed Pasha, instead of himself receiving their Chiefs at Canea, consented to go not merely outside the town, and meet them halfway, but to their head-quarters. This, in the eyes of the people, was an acknowledgment of their superiority, and the negotiation, as it was called, which followed, was in reality a wholesale compliance with their demands. It was conceded that, for form's sake, a few of these should be referred to Constantinople, but it was well understood that the insurgents were definitively to have everything.

(Signed) J. A. LONGWORTH.

No. 2.

Consul Longworth to Sir H. Bulwer.

(Extract.) *Canea in Crete, September* 28, 1858.

I HAVE to report that the actual state of affairs in Crete is unsatisfactory, and the political prospects of the island very precarious. His Excellency Sami Pasha, in a conversation he had with me yesterday, said it would be a mistake to think that the insurrection had been suppressed: in every essential point, in the insubordination and misrule prevailing in the interior, in the dangerous state of the roads, and the general insecurity of life and property, finally in the impossibility of collecting the revenue (not only the nizamiet or military contribution, but also the iltizam or tithe), the insurrection was to all intents and purposes as much a deplorable fact and reality as ever. Convinced, he continued, of the futility of my exertions, with the means at my disposal, of putting down this revolt, I have tendered my resignation to the Government; the only conditions on which I can possibly be answerable for the public safety are: first, that I should have considerable military reinforcements (at the very least two battalions of infantry at my disposal), and that I should be provided with three small steamers for the purpose of transporting troops to different parts of the coast, as circumstances may require; secondly, that I should be furnished with sufficient funds for military and administrative purposes, as I can scarcely depend on a piastre from the fiscal resources of the island itself; thirdly, that I should no longer be thwarted and controlled in all my measures for foreign agents and emissaries, and least of all by the Hellenic Consul. On these conditions I will undertake to uphold the Sultan's Government and authority in Crete; but if these cannot be complied with, I consider the task I am engaged in as hopeless, and I would rather retire at once than be a witness of calamities and of a final catastrophe which I know I cannot avert.

The Pasha then, in support of his opinions, entered into a variety of details; murder and assassination, burglary and abduction, he said, were daily on the increase.

The victims in nearly all these cases were Mussulmans; and this circumstance, combined with the rising ofthe Christians at Kissamo under Anagnastes Skallidis (who, I should mention, though his band is dispersed, has not been apprehended himself), has revived the panic among them, and several were again seeking an asylum with their families

in Retimo and Candia: he, the Pasha, however, had taken steps to prevent the measure becoming general; but all the districts of the interior were in a frightful state of anarchy. Hetairias (secret societies) were being formed all over the island, associations also to resist the payment of taxes; fire-arms, powder, and shot were surreptitiously introduced; and though he might sometimes succeed in intercepting a portion of them, great quantities, he had no doubt, had reached their destination. Indeed, as regards this part of the Pasha's statement, I can confirm it from facts which have come under my own cognizance. There have been recently two instances of arms and gunpowder being conveyed here by Ionian vessels. I was this week advised by Mr. Vice-Consul Ittar that forty-two barrels of gunpowder and sixteen muskets had been found on board an Ionian vessel.

The Pasha had received information that these articles had been shipped for Candia at Smyrna, and as the master had not inserted them in his manifest and denied having them on board when challenged by the authorities, they were lawfully seized and confiscated. Everything indicates a settled intention, which is indeed scarcely disguised, on the part of the Greek population, of rising *en masse* against the authorities in the ensuing spring. The movement is deferred till then, as during the winter they have to bring down their cattle into the plains.

In the meanwhile the usual agricultural operations, which, at this season, consist chiefly in manuring and otherwise preparing the ground, are a good deal neglected, so that famine is anticipated, in addition to other disasters with which the island is threatened. These hopeful dispositions are of course improved and made the most of by friends and sympathisers in Greece and the Ionian Islands; an active correspondence is carried on amongst them, and some important secrets have been detected by the Pasha. A society, composed chiefly of young men educated at Athens, have been collecting signatures, in the four provinces of Retimo, to a memorial in which it is proposed to proclaim General Calergis Prince of Crete.

Such are the revolutionary elements against which the Porte has here to contend. Now, in all these—in the rebellious spirit of the Christians, in their plots and confederacies with the Hellenes and the neighbouring islands, finally in their aggregate force—there is, in my humble opinion, nothing very formidable, nothing which the Porte, by a timely display of energy may not easily repress. The chief reliance of her enemies must be on the apathy of her functionaries, and, much worse than that, on their infatuation in allowing the most inveterate of them, such men as the Hellenic Consul, for instance, to share and influence their counsels.

In the first place, as regards the military means of repression, it is certain that, if judiciously employed, but little is required to operate promptly and decisively, in this quarter. Sami Pasha should be immediately supplied with the additional force he has applied for, and which I understand has been promised him by the Porte. Two or three thousand more troops, regular and irregular, and two more small steamers, besides that which is here at present, will be enough for every purpose. Many circumstances in a strategic point of view combine to favour these operations. The configuration of the island itself, long, narrow, and indented, is suggestive of the plan to be pursued. By throwing a military cordon across it at a given point, any part of it may be isolated from the rest; and with the command of the sea, and facility of transport afforded by the steamers, troops can be anywhere concentrated in superior numbers as emergencies arise. Another circumstance, of which advantage may be taken, is connected with the habits of the mountain tribes, who are compelled during the winter months to descend with their flocks into the plains, the military occupation of which would, without firing a shot, place all these people at the mercy of the Government.

Were the question one simply of relative physical force, it is evident it might be easily disposed of, and that without any reinforcement of the troops now in the island; but there are considerations by which it is complicated, and in which the Christian Powers naturally take an interest. Thus, the armed Mussulman population, instead of presenting, as they formerly did, a powerful resource in time of need to the Government, are an element of danger which it is necessary to coerce. I have been informed by Sami Pasha that three battalions of infantry must be kept in the towns and fortresses on the coast, not as garrisons or with a view of defending them, but to prevent excesses on the part of the Turkish inhabitants. This is really a feature of the case which deserves to be appreciated, and if (as I believe they will in this instance be found to have been) they are as sincerely bent on curbing the fanatic spirit of their co-religionnaires as they are the turbulent dispositions of the Christians, great allowances should be made for their difficulties. Nor should co-operation in overcoming them, as far as moral influence is concerned, be withheld. It was the perversion of that influence to the most questionable purposes which led to the late insurrection. Its legitimate exercise may still serve to pacify the country,

and save it from another ordeal of violence and bloodshed. I am convinced that if the Christians of Crete could be persuaded that in their present course of insubordination they have nothing to hope from the countenance or assistance of European Governments, that they are deceived if they imagine that the Turks, under no provocation, would be allowed to attack them, they would at once desist from the dangerous enterprize they have in view. But the expression of the unanimous opinion and wishes of these Governments must be clearly and unequivocably conveyed to them.

As to the advantages which the Christians expected from their rising, nobody who knows anything of their hopes and aspirations can have any doubt about them; whatever grievances may be alleged, whatever claim ostensibly put forward, their real aim is, if not the immediate, at any rate the gradual, disseverance of the ties which connect them with the Ottoman Empire.

CRETE.

Reports by Consul-General Longworth respecting the Island of Crete: 1858.

Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address dated March 19, 1868.

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CONVENTION

FOR THE

GUARANTEE OF A LOAN

TO

COMPLETE THE WORKS

AT THE

SULINA MOUTH AND BRANCHES

OF THE

DANUBE.

Signed at Galatz, April 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

4050

Convention between Her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Italy, the King of Prussia in the name of the North German Confederation, and the Sultan, for the Guarantee of a Loan to complete the Works at the Sulina Mouth and Branches of the Danube.

Signed at Galatz, April 30, 1868.

[*British Ratification deposited in the Archives of the European Commission of the Danube at Galatz, June* 1, 1868.]

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohême, Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie, Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, ayant reconnu la nécessité de mettre la Commission Européenne du Danube en mesure de contracter un emprunt à des conditions avantageuses, et par ce moyen d'achever les travaux d'amélioration entrepris ou à entreprendre à l'embouchure et dans le bras de Soulina, sans imposer des charges trop lourdes aux bâtiments de toutes les nations qui fréquentent le Bas Danube;

Et prenant en considération:—

Les Articles XVI à XVIII du Traité conclu à Paris le 30 Mars, 1856, portant qu'une Commission Européenne sera chargée de désigner et de faire exécuter les travaux nécessaires pour mettre le Bas Danube, en aval de Isaktcha, ses embouchures, et les parties de la mer y avoisinantes, dans les meilleures conditions possibles de navigabilité; le dit Traité stipulant, en outre, que des droits fixes, arrêtés par la Commission, pourront être perçus pour couvrir les frais de ces travaux, ainsi que des établissements ayant pour objet d'assurer et de faciliter la navigation aux embouchures du Danube;

L'Acte Public relatif à la navigation des dites embouchures, signé à Galatz, le 2 Novembre, 1865, sanctionné dans la séance de la Conférence de Paris, en date du 28 Mars, 1866;

Les délibérations prises par la Commission Européenne, le dit jour 2 Novembre, 1865, le 16 Octobre, 1866, et le 25 Avril, 1867, portant que de nouveaux travaux seraient entrepris pour compléter et rendre permanentes les améliorations provisoires déjà réalisées à l'embouchure et dans le bras de Soulina, et que les frais de ces travaux seraient couverts au moyen d'un emprunt à contracter par la Commission, et remboursable sur le produit des droits fixes arrêtés et perçus par elle;

Les Résolutions adoptées par la Conférence de Paris, dans ses séances du 28 Mars et du 24 Avril, 1866, touchant le délai dans lequel les nouveaux travaux devront être terminés;

Les Déclarations faites par le Délégué de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan dans la séance de la Commission Européenne du 9 Mai, 1866, et dans celle du 16 Octobre suivant, desquelles il résulte que dans le but de faciliter à la dite Commission la conclusion de son emprunt, la Sublime Porte renonce à réclamer le remboursement des avances qu'elle a faites, elle-même, pour couvrir les premières dépenses des susdits travaux, et ce jusqu'au moment où le nouvel emprunt à contracter pour en terminer l'achèvement aura été entièrement amorti;

Le Mémorandum, en date du 15 Octobre, 1866, soumis aux Puissances signataires du

Traité de Paris, constatant que les négociations ouvertes en vue du dit emprunt sont demeurées infructueuses, faute de garanties suffisantes à offrir aux capitalistes, et qu'il sera impossible à la Commission de trouver les ressources nécessaires à l'achèvement de sa tâche, sans un appui efficace de la part de ses Hauts Commettants ;

Et les dispositions de l'Acte Public du 2 Novembre, 1865, sus-énoncé, et spécialement celles des Articles 14, 15, et 16, relatives à la perception et à l'emploi des taxes de Soulina, et celle de l'Article 21, qui assure le bénéfice de la neutralité aux ouvrages et établissements de toute nature créés par la Commission Européenne, notamment à la Caisse de Navigation de Soulina ;—

Ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Sieur John Stokes, Lieutenant-Colonel au Corps Royal des Ingénieurs, Son Vice-Consul pour le Delta du Danube, Son Délégué dans la dite Commission Européenne du Danube, Chevalier de l'Ordre Impérial du Medjidié de quatrième classe, &c. ;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohême, &c., le Sieur Alfred Chevalier de Kremer, Son Conseiller de Section, et Consul pour le Littoral du Bas Danube, Son Délégué dans la dite Commission Européenne ;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, le Sieur Louis Marie Adolphe Baron d'Avril, Son Agent et Consul-Général à Bucarest, Son Délégué dans la dite Commission Européenne, Officier de l'Ordre Impérial de la Légion d'Honneur, &c. ;

Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie, le Sieur Etienne Castelli, Son Consul à Galatz, Chevalier de l'Ordre des Saints Maurice et Lazare ;

Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, le Sieur Henri Ernest Werner, Comte de Keyserling-Rautenburg, Son Agent et Consul-Genéral en Roumanie, Son Délégué dans la dite Commission Européenne, Chevalier de Son Ordre de l'Aigle Rouge de quatrième classe, Chevalier de Saint Jean de Jérusalem, &c. ;

Et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, Suleyman Behidj Pacha, Beylerbey de Roumélie, Son Gouverneur pour la Province de Toultcha, Son Délégué dans la dite Commission Européenne du Danube, décoré de l'Ordre Impérial du Medjidié de troisième classe ;

Lesquels, après avoir échangé leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes :—

ARTICLE I.

Leurs Majestés—

L'Empereur d'Autriche, Roi de Hongrie et de Bohême, s'engage, sauf l'assentiment des Corps Représentatifs compétents, à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement d'un emprunt de trois millions, trois cent soixante-quinze mille francs, ou cent trente-cinq mille livres sterling, à contracter par la Commission Européenne du Danube ;

L'Empereur des Français s'engage, sous la ratification du Corps Législatif de France, à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement du même emprunt ;

La Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande s'engage à recommander à son Parlement de l'autoriser à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement du même emprunt ;

Le Roi d'Italie s'engage, sauf l'approbation du Parlement Italien, à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement du même emprunt ;

Le Roi de Prusse s'engage, au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, sauf l'assentiment du Reichstag et du Conseil Fédéral, à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement du même emprunt ;

L'Empereur des Ottomans s'engage à garantir les intérêts et l'amortissement du même emprunt ;

Et il est entendu que cette garantie sera conjointe et solidaire entre toutes les Hautes Parties Contractantes.

ARTICLE II.

L'intérêt payable sur le dit emprunt ne sera pas supérieur à cinq pour cent, et la durée de l'amortissement n'excédera pas une période de treize ans, à partir du premier Janvier, mil huit cent soixante-onze, époque à laquelle le versement de l'emprunt aura été complété par les prêteurs.

A partir du premier versement, et jusqu'au premier Janvier, mil huit cent soixante-onze, la garantie conjointe et solidaire portera sur les intérêts des sommes versées, et pendant les années suivantes sur les annuités comprenant à la fois l'intérêt et l'amortisse-

ment du capital, n'excédant pas la somme totale de trois cent soixante mille francs, ou quatorze mille quatre cents livres sterling, par an.

ARTICLE III.

S'il arrivait que le produit net des taxes perçues par la Commission Européenne à l'embouchure de Soulina, en vertu de l'Article XVI du Traité de Paris, déduction faite d'une somme n'excédant pas quatre cent mille francs, ou seize mille livres sterling, pour les frais d'entretien des travaux et d'administration, fût insuffisant pour pourvoir complètement au service des intérêts et du fonds d'amortissement de l'emprunt, Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique, Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie, Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Ottomans, sur l'avis de la quotité du déficit, qui leur sera donné un mois avant l'échéance, soit par la Commission Européenne ou par l'autorité qui lui succèdera, soit par les intéressés eux-mêmes, s'engagent à fournir, à titre d'avance, avant l'expiration de ce délai, leur part afférente dans la dite garantie.

ARTICLE IV.

Dans le cas prévu par l'Article précédent, et pour éviter tout retard, le Gouvernement Britannique s'engage à déposer à la Banque d'Angleterre toute la somme nécessaire pour le paiement intégral des intérêts et de l'amortissement à l'époque précise de l'échéance.

De leur côté, les autres Puissances Contractantes s'engagent à faire remettre immédiatement leur dite part afférente au Gouvernement Britannique.

ARTICLE V.

L'Article 14 de l'Acte Public du 2 Novembre, 1865, ayant stipulé que le revenu produit par les susdites taxes serait affecté, par priorité et préférence, au remboursement des emprunts contractés par la Commission Européenne et de ceux qu'elle pourrait contracter à l'avenir pour l'achèvement des travaux d'amélioration des embouchures du Danube, les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent d'user pour elles-mêmes du bénéfice de ce droit de priorité et de préférence, à titre de subrogation, dans le cas où elles auraient dû pourvoir, de leurs propres deniers, au service de l'emprunt garanti.

Il est entendu cependant que ce droit de priorité sera exercé par les Puissances sans préjudice ni aux droits des porteurs des titres de cet emprunt, ni aux droits antérieurs des créanciers, au profit desquels la Commission Européenne a engagé ses revenus, pour le montant des emprunts partiels s'élevant à cent onze mille cent ducats émis les 12 Mai, 1866, 25 Avril, et 4 Novembre, 1867, pour commencer les travaux définitifs, et remboursables, à courte échéance, sur le produit de l'emprunt à contracter.

ARTICLE VI.

Aussitôt que la présente Convention sera devenu définitive pour quatre au moins des Hautes Parties Contractantes, la garantie conjointe et solidaire sortira son plein et entier effet à l'égard de ces derniers.

ARTICLE VII.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée. Chacune des Hautes Puissances Contractantes ratifiera en un seul exemplaire. Les ratifications seront déposées dans le délai de trois mois, ou plus tôt si faire se peut, dans les archives de la Commission Européenne du Danube, pour être plus tard remises à l'autorité qui lui succèdera.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé la présente Convention, et y ont apposé le sceau de leurs armes.

Fait à Galatz, le trentième jour du mois d'Avril, de l'an mil huit cent soixante-huit.

(L.S.) J. STOKES.
(L.S.) A. DE KREMER.
(L.S.) A. D'AVRIL.
(L.S.) CASTELLI, STEFANO.
(L.S.) H. C^TE. DE KEYSERLING.
(L.S.) SULEYMAN.

(Translation.)

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, His Majesty the Emperor of the French, His Majesty the King of Italy, His Majesty the King of Prussia, in the name of the North German Confederation, and His Majesty the Emperor of the Ottomans,—

Having recognized the necessity of putting the European Commission of the Danube in a position to contract a loan on advantageous terms, and by this means to complete the works of improvement undertaken, or to be undertaken, at the mouth and in the branch of the Sulina, without imposing too heavy burdens on the vessels of all nations which frequent the Lower Danube;

And taking into consideration Articles XVI to XVIII of the Treaty concluded at Paris on the 30th of March, 1856, which declare that a European Commission shall be charged to designate, and to cause to be executed, the works necessary to put the Lower Danube below Isaktcha, its mouths, and the parts of the sea adjacent thereto, in the best possible state for navigation; the said Treaty stipulating, moreover, that fixed duties settled by the Commission may be levied in order to cover the expenses of such works, as well as of the establishments intended to secure and to facilitate the navigation at the mouths of the Danube;

The public Act relating to the navigation of the said mouths, signed at Galatz the 2nd of November, 1865, sanctioned in the sitting of the Conference of Paris, held on the 28th March, 1866;

The decisions taken by the European Commission on the said 2nd day of November, 1865, on the 16th of October, 1866, and on the 25th of April, 1867, to the effect that new works should be undertaken, in order to complete and render permanent the provisional improvements already effected at the mouth and in the branch of the Sulina, and that the cost of those works should be covered by means of a loan to be contracted by the Commission, and repayable out of the produce of the fixed duties settled and levied by it;

The resolutions adopted by the Conference of Paris in its sittings of the 28th of March, and 24th of April, 1866, concerning the term within which the new works are to be finished;

The declarations made by the Delegate of His Imperial Majesty the Sultan in the sitting of the European Commission of the 9th of May, 1866, and in that of the 16th of October following, from which it appears that with the intention of facilitating to the said Commission the conclusion of its loan, the Sublime Porte renounces its claim to the repayment of the advances which it has itself made to cover the first expenses of the above-mentioned works, until the moment when the new loan to be contracted in order to finish the completion of them shall have been entirely paid off;

The Memorandum, dated the 15th of October, 1866, submitted to the Powers which signed the Treaty of Paris, setting forth that the negotiations opened with a view to the said loan have remained fruitless for want of sufficient guarantees to offer to capitalists, and that it will be impossible for the Commission to find the resources necessary for the completion of its task, without an efficient support on the part of its high constituents;

And the provisions of the above-mentioned public Act of the 2nd of November, 1865, especially those of Articles XIV, XV, and XVI, relating to the collection and to the employment of the Sulina tolls, and that of Article XXI, which ensures the benefit of neutrality to the works and establishments of every kind created by the European Commission, particularly to the Navigation Chest at Sulina;

Have named for their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, John Stokes, Esquire, Lieutenant-Colonel in the corps of Royal Engineers, Her Vice-Consul for the Delta of the Danube, Her Delegate in the said European Commission of the Danube, Knight of the Imperial Order of the Medjidie of the Fourth Class, &c.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, &c., the Sieur Alfred Chevalier de Kremer, his Councillor of Section and Consul for the course of the Lower Danube, his Delegate in the said European Commission;

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, the Sieur Louis Marie Adolphus Baron d'Avril, his Agent and Consul-General at Bucharest, his Delegate in the said European Commission, Officer of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour, &c.

His Majesty the King of Italy, the Sieur Stephen Castelli, his Consul at Galatz, Knight of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus;

His Majesty the King of Prussia, in the name of the North German Confederation, the Sieur Henry Ernest Werner, Count of Keyserling-Rautenburg, his Agent and Consul-

General in Roumania, his Delegate in the said European Commission, Knight of his Order of the Red Eagle of the Fourth Class, Knight of St. John of Jerusalem, &c. ;

And His Majesty the Emperor of the Ottomans, Suleyman Behidj Pasha, Beylerbey of Roumelia, his Governor of the Province of Toultcha, his Delegate in the said European Commission of the Danube, decorated with the Imperial Order of the Medjidie of the Third Class ;

Who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following arrangements :—

ARTICLE I.

Their Majesties—

The Emperor of Austria, King of Hungary and Bohemia, engages, subject to the assent of the competent representative bodies, to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of a loan of three millions three hundred and seventy-five thousand francs, or one hundred and thirty-five thousand pounds sterling, to be contracted by the European Commission of the Danube ;

The Emperor of the French engages, subject to the ratification of the Legislative Body of France, to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of the same loan ;

The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland engages to recommend to her Parliament to enable her to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of the same loan ;

The King of Italy engages, subject to the approbation of the Italian Parliament, to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of the same loan ;

The King of Prussia engages, in the name of the North German Confederation, subject to the assent of the Reichstag and of the Federal Council, to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of the same loan ;

The Emperor of the Ottomans engages to guarantee the interest and sinking fund of the same loan ;

And it is understood that this guarantee shall be joint and several between all the High Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE II.

The interest payable on the said loan shall not be higher than five per cent., and the duration of the redemption shall not exceed a period of thirteen years, reckoning from the first of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, the date at which the payment of the loan will have been completed by the lenders.

Reckoning from the first instalment, and until the first of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, the joint and several guarantee shall bear upon the interest of the sums paid ; and during the following years, upon the annuities comprising both interest and repayment of the capital, and not exceeding the total sum of three hundred and sixty thousand francs, or fourteen thousand four hundred pounds sterling per annum.

ARTICLE III.

If the net produce of the tolls levied by the European Commission at the Sulina mouth, in virtue of the XVIth Article of the Treaty of Paris, after deduction of a sum not exceeding four hundred thousand francs, or sixteen thousand pounds sterling, for the expenses of maintaining the works, and of administration, should happen to be insufficient to provide completely for the payment of the interest and sinking fund of the loan, His Imperial Royal Apostolic Majesty, His Majesty the Emperor of the French, Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, His Majesty the King of Italy, His Majesty the King of Prussia, in the name of the North German Confederation, and His Majesty the Emperor of the Ottomans, upon notice of the amount of the deficit, which shall be given to them one month before it becomes due, either by the European Commission, or by the authority which shall succeed it, or by the parties interested themselves, engage to furnish as an advance, before the expiration of that time, their share in the said guarantee.

ARTICLE IV.

In the event contemplated by the preceding Article, and in order to avoid all delay, the British Government engages to deposit at the Bank of England the whole sum necessary for the integral payment of the interest and sinking fund at the precise time of their falling due.

On their part, the other Contracting Powers engage to remit immediately their said share to the British Government.

ARTICLE V.

Article 14 of the Public Act of the 2nd November, 1865, having stipulated that the revenue produced by the above-mentioned tolls should be appropriated by priority and preference to the repayment of the loans contracted by the European Commission, and of those which it might contract in future for the completion of the works of improvement of the mouths of the Danube, the High Contracting Parties reserve the right to make use for themselves of the privilege of such right of priority and preference, by right of substitution, in the event of their having been obliged to provide from their own funds for the service of the guaranteed loan.

It is understood, however, that such right of priority will be exercised by the Powers without prejudice, either to the rights of the holders of the scrip of this loan, or to the anterior rights of the creditors for whose benefit the European Commission has pledged its revenues for the amount of the partial loans, amounting to one hundred and eleven thousand and one hundred ducats, issued on the 12th of May, 1866, the 25th of April, and 4th of November, 1867, in order to begin the permanent works, and repayable at short terms from the produce of the loan to be contracted.

ARTICLE VI.

As soon as the present Convention shall have become definitive for four at least of the High Contracting Parties, the joint and several guarantee shall have its full and entire effect in respect of these latter.

ARTICLE VII.

The present Convention shall be ratified. Each of the High Contracting Powers shall ratify in a single copy.

The ratifications shall be deposited in the space of three months, or sooner if possible, in the archives of the European Commission of the Danube, to be eventually handed over to the authority which shall succeed it.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Galatz, the thirtieth day of the month of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

(L.S.) J. STOKES.
(L.S.) A. DE KREMER.
(L.S.) A. D'AVRIL.
(L.S.) CASTELLI, STEFANO.
(L.S.) H. C^{TE}. DE KEYSERLING.
(L.S.) SULEYMAN.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Italy, the King of Prussia in the name of the North German Confederation, and the Sultan, for the Guarantee of a Loan to complete the Works at the Sulina Mouth and Branches of the Danube.

Signed at Galatz, April 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

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PAPERS

RESPECTING

JUDICIAL REFORMS IN EGYPT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

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Papers respecting Judicial Reforms in Egypt.

No. 1.

Memorandum by Nubar Pasha on the Alterations to be effected in the Judicial Relations of Natives and Foreigners.

LA juridiction qui régit Européens en Egypte, et détermine leurs relations avec le Gouvernement ainsi qu'avec les habitants du pays, n'a plus pour base les Capitulations. De ces Capitulations, il n'existe plus que le nom; elles ont été remplacées par une législation coutumière, arbitraire, résultat du caractère de chaque chef d'agence—législation basée sur des antécédents plus ou moins abusifs, que la force des choses, la pression d'un côté, le désir de faciliter l'établissement des étrangers de l'autre, ont introduite en Egypte, et qui laisse actuellement le Gouvernement sans force et la population sans justice régulière dans ses rapports avec les Européens. Cet état de choses ne profite à personne, pas plus aux intérêts généraux des Puissances qu'à la population honnête du pays, indigène ou étrangère; il s'exerce au détriment du pays, au détriment du Gouvernement, à l'avantage de ceux qui se sont fait un métier de l'exploiter.

Le besoin d'une réforme se fait vivement sentir; la Colonie Européenne augmentant, les Agences étrangères elles-mêmes en comprennent la nécessité; elles la réclament. Le Gouvernement et les Consulats sont d'accord sur le principe de cette nécessité; le désaccord ne commence que lorsqu'on arrive aux moyens de mettre le principe en pratique; on ne veut tenir aucun compte des Capitulations; les abus introduits sont présentés comme des lois et des principes dont on ne saurait s'écarter; en un mot on demande le but qui est la justice, mais comme on repousse les moyens, il en résulte que l'Egypte présente un état où l'indigène, soit demandeur, soit défendeur, ne pouvant trouver justice, est en définitive dépouillé, heureux encore s'il n'abandonne que sa maison à son locataire.

Le Gouvernement se voit assailli de procès que souvent les Consuls eux-mêmes ne peuvent s'empêcher de qualifier de scandaleux. La population se défie de l'Européen; le Gouvernement, qui voit pourtant le progrès dans ce même Européen, est obligé, dans la crainte d'en être la victime, de le tenir éloigné. Les exemples ne manquent pas; il serait long de les énumérer; il suffit seulement de savoir que le Gouvernement, dans l'espace de quatre ans, a payé pour 72,000,000 d'indemnités. Mais il faut aussi ajouter que, payée sous la pression Consulaire directement ou indirectement exercée, ces indemnités sont qualifiées et représentées par ceux-là mêmes qui ont exercé la pression, comme des actes d'une générosité sans exemple de la part de son Altesse. Si le mal encore se limitait là! Mais le Gouvernement, qui sent que le progrès ne peut lui venir que de l'Europe, qui aspire à l'introducion de cet élément civilisateur, qui veut lui confier ses grands travaux, base de son agriculture et de son commerce, qui veut appeler des capitaux en leur présentant un emploi rémunérateur, le Gouvernement, dis-je, est reduit à l'impuissance et il se voit obligé d'abandonner le pays à lui-même. De tous les travaux confiés aux Européens, le bassin de Radoub, seul, de Suez, est terminé; tous les autres sont ou inachevés ou non encore commencés, et tels qu'ils sont, ont donné et donnent encore lieu à indemnités.

La manière dont la justice s'exerce tend à démoraliser le pays; tous les efforts de son Altesse se sont brisés contre l'envahissement de cette démoralisation: l'Arabe, forcé de voir l'Europe à travers l'Européen qui l'exploite, répugne au progrès de l'Occident et accuse le Vice-Roi et son Gouvernement de faiblesse ou d'erreur.

Depuis plus de quarante ans, l'Européen jouit du droit de propriété en Egypte; il possède ses propriétés, soi-disant sous la juridiction et la législation du pays; les Consuls, en théorie, sont d'accord sur ce principe, mais dans la pratique, sous prétexte de Capitulations qui couvrent, disent-ils, l'Européen, celui-ci, propriétaire de maisons ou exerçant un

métier, n'acquitte point de taxes, et si, possesseur d'une ferme, il ne paie point les impôts, le Consul intervient alors et son intervention aboutit presque toujours à un non-paiement.

Cet état de choses, contraire à l'esprit, contraire à la lettre même des Capitulations, non seulement empêche le pays de développer ses ressources, de fournir à l'industrie et à la richesse Européennes tout ce qu'il est apte à donner, mais encore, il met obstacle à son organisation et le ruine aussi bien moralement que matériellement.

Votre Altesse a pensé que le seul remède à porter à cet état de choses, c'était l'organisation d'un bon système de justice qui présentât à l'Europe toutes les garanties qu'elle est en droit de demander.

Votre Altesse a pensé que l'élément étranger doit entrer dans l'organisation de nos tribunaux ; en effet, cet élément, peu nombreux au Caire, balance à Alexandrie l'élément indigène : nombre d'Européens sont fixés dans les provinces ; tous sont négociants ou industriels ; leurs relations avec la population sont conséquemment de tous les jours, de toutes les heures, pour ainsi dire. On doit donc tenir compte de cet élément dans l'organisation des Tribunaux, et même, dans le principe, lui donner des garanties même superflues, afin de lui inspirer de la confiance et dans les hommes et dans le Gouvernement.

Le principe est la séparation complete de la justice d'avec l'administration. La justice doit émaner du Gouvernment, mais non en dépendre ; elle ne doit pas plus dépendre du Gouvernement que des Consulats. Pour pouvoir atteindre le but que se propose votre Altesse, il faut que les Puissances soient persuadées de ce fait : " La justice émane du Gouvernement, elle ne dépend pas de lui." Le moyen d'inspirer cette conviction, c'est de posséder un corps de magistrature. Il ne suffit pas, en effet, de l'équité naturelle, inhérente à une nature honnête pour constituer un bon magistrat ; la connaissance de la loi lui est indispensable ; c'est une étude à faire, c'est tout une éducation. Nos magistrats actuels ont une connaissance parfait de la loi civile et religieuse qui suffisait lorsqu'ils n'avaient qu'à rendre une justice uniforme à une population uniforme dans ses mœurs et dans ses besoins.

Mais à de nouvelles nécessités il faut de nouvelles lois ; et les Européens, en s'établissant dans le pays, ont amené avec eux des usages nouveaux, des relations nouvelles. Un système mixte a commencé à s'introduire dans nos lois et dans nos codes. Il faut conséquemment des hommes nouveaux pour appliquer ce nouveau système. Il faut que l'Egypte, pour l'administration de la justice, fasse ce qu'elle a déjà fait, d'une manière si efficace, pour son armée, ses chemins de fer, ses ingénieurs des ponts et chaussées, ses services de santé et d'hygiène. L'élément compétent, l'élément étranger a été introduit ; cet élément a servi à former l'élément indigène. Ce qui a été fait dans l'ordre matériel doit être fait dans l'ordre moral, c'est-à-dire, dans l'organisation de la justice.

La nécessité de ce système mixte s'est fait vivement sentir, que depuis nombre d'années les Ambassades en ont demandé l'introduction à Constantinople. Constantinople a institué un Tribunal Mixte de Commerce, où tous les procès commerciaux entre indigènes et Européens, soit demandeurs, soit défendeurs, sont également jugés.

Il s'agit d'étendre ce système et de l'appliquer au civil et au criminel. Le Tribunal de Commerce siégeant à Alexandrie et au Caire n'est pas, à proprement parler, un tribunal ; il diffère de celui de Constantinople. C'est plutôt un Jury ; mais pour les questions commerciales, la base de l'institution, telle qu'elle est, est bonne et mérite d'être conservée ; il faut seulement l'améliorer. Ce jury ou tribunal, institué d'abord pour connaître des litiges commerciaux survenant entre étrangers et indigènes indifféremment demandeurs ou défendeurs, se trouve être actuellement abandonné. Les Consuls réclament la connaissance des causes dans lesquelles leurs nationaux comparaissent comme défendeurs, et le Tribunal se voit récusé souvent par eux, même dans le cas où le défendeur est indigène. Ils se basent, pour agir de la sorte, sur le manque de compétence des membres qui le composent. Je ne veux pas discuter, Monseigneur, l'accusation portée contre ce Tribunal ; je ne la crois pas fondée. Il me suffit seulement du mot que votre Altesse a prononcé : " Donnons des garanties même superflues."

J'ai l'honneur de proposer à votre Altesse la conservation des deux Tribunaux Mixtes de Commerce établis au Caire et à Alexandrie ; mais au lieu de les composer de trois membres choisis par les Consuls parmi les négociants de la Colonie Européenne et de trois membres indigènes que le Gouvernement appelle à siéger à tour de rôle, je proposerais à Monseigneur de le composer de quatre membres seulement—deux que les Consuls choisiraient parmi les négociants présentant le plus de garanties et pris parmi les plus notables, deux autres que le Gouvernement choisirait parmi les indigènes que leurs relations rapprochent le plus des Européens. De même que cela se pratique actuellement, ces membres siégeraient à tour de rôle. Je proposerais à votre Altesse de laisser la présidence à un Egyptien, mais de déférer la Vice-Présidence à un Magistrat choisi en Europe,

et pour avoir des garanties au sujet de son caractère il serait bon de s'adresser au Ministère de la Justice. Ce Magistrat serait permanent.

Au-dessus de ces deux Tribunaux, il serait nécessaire d'avoir un Tribunal d'Appel siégeant à Alexandrie. Celui-ci serait composé de trois Membres Egyptiens que votre Altesse pourrait choisir parmi nos jeunes gens qui ont fait leurs études de droit en Europe, et trois autres Membres, Magistrats compétents que votre Altesse ferait venir d'Europe, en s'adressant, pour le choix, à leurs Gouvernements. Ce Tribunal fonctionnerait sous la présidence d'un Egyptien. A côté des deux Tribunaux de Commerce, il faudrait deux Tribunaux jugeant au civil. On pourrait les composer de deux membres compétents engagés au dehors et de deux Membres Egyptiens, toujours sous la présidence d'un sujet Egyptien.

Le Tribunal d'Appel siégeant à Alexandrie aurait aussi, dans ses attributions, la révision des jugements rendus par les Tribunaux Civils.

Quant aux contestations provenant des questions terriennes et de propriété, les Européens ont été toujours soumis à nos Tribunaux. Ces Tribunaux fonctionnent bien ; les Membres qui les composent connaissent la matière à fond ; l'élément étranger ne serait plus compétent dans l'espèce.

Je propose donc à votre Altesse de les laisser tels qu'ils sont.

La question de l'inamovibilité des magistrats a attiré l'attention de votre Altesse. Votre Altesse, après mûre considération, a pensé, et cela avec raison, que l'inamovibilité peut présenter de graves inconvénients pour un état de choses qui commence. Elle croit qu'un engagement de cinq années pour les magistrats est suffisant, et donnera aux justiciables toutes les garanties, ainsi qu'au Gouvernement de votre Altesse et aux Puissances, le temps de juger du mérite de l'institution.

Quant aux questions criminelles, elles ne sont pas aussi simples que les questions civiles et commerciales. Elles peuvent être pourtant résolues, si on se rapporte à l'esprit aussi bien qu'à la lettre des Capitulations, et même à ce qui se pratiquait sous Méhémet Ali.

En effet, comment les affaires se passaient-elles du temps du grand Vice-Roi ? Quand un crime ou un délit était commis par un étranger, c'était le Gouverneur de la citadelle du Caire qui en connaissait, qui faisait l'enquête, rendait le jugement, et envoyait le jugement et le délinquant à son Consul, afin que la sentence fût exécutée. Le nombre des Européens étant, à cette époqee, trés limité ; les crimes et les délits très rares ; la surveillance des Consuls sur les nationaux était plus facile et plus efficace. Je ne me rappelle pas qu'il se soit présenté des cas d'impunité, ou tout au moins, s'il y a eu quelque fâcheuse tolérance, qu'elle ait donné lieu à des réclamations ou produit des inconvénients sérieux. Ces sortes d'affaires se passaient pour ainsi dire en famille ; tout le monde étant intéressé au maintien du bon ordre et ayant la volonté et le pouvoir de le maintenir.

Je dois faire remarquer pourtant à votre Altesse que cette manière de procéder n'est pas complètement conforme aux Capitulations, qui ne soustraient, en aucune façon, les étrangers à la juridiction du pays, et se bornent à leur accorder en matière criminelle le privilége d'être jugés, assistés de leurs drogmans ou interprètes, par le tribunal suprème ; la peine devant toujours être appliquée.

Depuis Méhémet Ali le nombre des Européens croissant, et par suite le nombre des délits augmentant en proportion, le Gouvernement, en présence de la non-application, par les Consuls, des sentences qu'il portait, et pour obvier autant que possible aux inconvénients qui se faisaient déjà sentir, crut pouvoir arriver à son but—l'application de la peine—en s'adjoignant dans l'enquête et dans le jugement, soit le Consul, soit l'interprète. Mais ce mode de procéder—qui présenta, à l'origine, des résultats satisfaisants, les choses se passant, comme j'ai dit, en famille—dégénéra à son tour. Vers 1848, les Consuls, sous la pression de leurs nationaux, devenus arbitres à la place de la loi, se trouvèrent impuissants, érigèrent leur impuissance en principe, et furent amenés peu à peu, par la force des choses, à prétendre faire l'enquête eux-mêmes en dehors du Gouvernement, ou tout au plus en s'adjoignant un fonctionnaire de la police indigène, sous prétexte que la peine devant être appliquée et exécutée dans leur propre pays, l'enquête ne pourrait être valable que faite conformément à leurs propres lois.

Tel est actuellement l'état des choses, non seulement pour les crimes, mais pour les délits et les simples contraventions. La justice se trouve ainsi complètement abandonnée non aux institutions, mais à l'arbitraire des individus. La position du Gouvernement n'est plus tenable lorsqu'on pense que sa police est impuissante à reprimer les plus légères infractions, jusqu'à ne pouvoir faire exécuter les règlements de voirie ou ceux qui concernent le stationnement des voitures publiques ; car si tel Consul est disposé sur la demande de la police à rappeler à l'ordre un cocher qui se refuse à stationner, tel autre

traite l'affaire d'indifférente, quelque fois par cela seul que son collégue la trouve raisonnable.

Donc, Monseigneur, le but que le Gouvernement de votre Altesse poursuit actuellement n'est pas de porter atteinte aux Capitulations, mais bien au contraire de rentrer dans leur lettre et dans leur esprit en demandant aux Gouvernements l'abandon des abus et de l'arbitraire personnel. Quel est, en effet, l'esprit des Capitulations? La protection de l'étranger, mais non son impunité. Quelle est leur lettre? Son jugement par les Tribunaux du pays, avec la garantie du Tribunal Suprême et l'assistance de son drogman.

On fait à votre Altesse la même objection que pour les Tribunaux Civils, objection fondée sur l'absence de lois et de magistrats présentant des garanties suffisantes. Mais votre Altesse, dans son désir de régulariser ses relations avec les Puissances, mettant de côté ce qu'elle pourrait réclamer comme un droit naturel et résultant des Capitulations mêmes, le droit imprescriptible de tout Gouvernement d'appliquer les lois de police et de sûreté à tous ceux qui habitent son territoire, a bien voulu appliquer au criminel l'idée qu'elle a eue au civil, c'est-à-dire, instituer des Tribunaux Mixtes Correctionnels.

Les Capitulations protègent d'une manière inviolable le domicile et la personne de l'étranger. Il n'est pas question de porter atteinte à ce principe. Votre Altesse veut même le fortifier; elle veut entourer l'Européen, accusé de crime, de plus de garanties que ne lui accordent les Capitulations; au lieu d'un Drogman, témoin muet, elle lui donne des juges pris en Europe et un jury mi-partie d'indigènes et d'Européens. Si on demande plus de garanties, votre Altesse les accordera. Le but de votre Altesse est la protection du citoyen honnête, que l'impunité dont jouissent les coupables met de plus en plus en danger. Les cas d'infractions moins graves, ceux que la loi Française nomme délits ou contraventions, seront soumis aux mêmes Tribunaux Mixtes. Dans tous les cas, l'appel se fera au Tribunal Supérieure établi à Alexandrie; cette faculté d'appel présente toutes les garanties désirables. Les peines seraient appliquées en Egypte, seulement en cas de prison; l'emprisonnement se ferait dans les Consulats respectifs si le Consul l'exigeait.

Avec l'organisation des Tribunaux, il y aurait lieu de s'occuper de la législation qu'ils doivent suivre et appliquer. La législation commerciale suivie actuellement en Egypte est celle de Constantinople acceptée par les Puissances, c'est le Code de Commerce Française. Pour la partie civile, votre Altesse a l'intention d'appeler une Commission de jurisconsultes étrangers, qui, réunis à nos légistes, concilieraient les dispositions du Code Napoléon avec celles de notre propre législation. Cette conciliation est déjà à moitié faite; le travail ne sera donc ni long ni difficile. Cette Commission serait chargée également de mettre nos lois pénales en harmonie avec celles du Code Pénal Français.

En résumé, ce que votre Altesse demande, soit au civile, soit au criminel, c'est le retour aux Capitulations, et non seulement un retour pur et simple, mais au contraire un retour qui accorderait aux étrangers des garanties bien supérieures à celles que leur présentaient ces Capitulations.

En effet, d'après celles-ci c'est un Tribunal indigène, qui juge en présence du Drogman, simple témoin sans voix délibérative.

D'après la réforme projetée, votre Altesse, à la place de ce témoin muet, donne aux étrangers la garantie d'un Tribunal, dans la composition duquel entre un élément Européen, et d'un Code révisé, conformément aux lois Européennes pénales et civiles.

L'organisation proposée par votre Altesse, calquée sur l'organisation judiciaire de l'Algérie, offre, il me semble, par là même, toutes les garanties désirables.

Il paraît impossible à votre Altesse que les Puissances se refusent à les admettre. Jusqu'ici elles ont cru, au contraire, saisir chaque occasion de venir à l'appui du développement matériel et moral en Egypte. Aujourd'hui, mises en présence de l'état réel du pays, en se refusant à l'établissement de la plus précieuse des garanties sociales, elles mettraient à néant non seulement le progrès, mais l'existence même de l'Egypte.

(Signé) N. NUBAR.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Colonel Stanton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 18, 1867.

I HAVE received your letter of the 9th instant, on the subject of the reforms which the Viceroy of Egypt desires to introduce into the judicial system in that country.

I had previously received from Mr. Fane a copy of the Memorandum on the subject which Nubar Pasha had laid before the Viceroy, and Nubar Pasha during his stay in this country had entered upon it with me.

Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the system which now prevails in Egypt in regard to suits in which foreigners on the one hand, and the Government and people of Egypt on the other, are concerned, is as injurious to the interests of all parties as it is certainly without warrant of any Treaty engagement. Her Majesty's Government are perfectly willing, therefore, to lend their aid to the Egyptian Government in an attempt to establish a better system, and if the Egyptian Government succeed in obtaining the concurrence of other Powers for the same purpose, you may assure Nubar Pasha that the cordial co-operation of Great Britain will not be withheld from so salutary work.

You will say, however, that Her Majesty's Government consider that practical results, even though they may fall short of theoretical perfection, are principally to be aimed at, and that accordingly it might be advantageous, at all events in the beginning, not to attempt to frame a new code of law or procedure, but to apply, as far as altered circumstances may admit, an improved system of procedure to the law as it at presents stands, amended in any necessary particulars by the legislation of foreign Governments in similar matters; and I do not hesitate to say that in the application of this principle Her Majesty's Government would not be disposed to insist on the embodiment in the new arrangement of the maxims of British law in contradistinction to those of the law of any foreign country: they would look rather to the requirements of natural justice, and to the means, from whatever source derived, by which those requirements could best be provided for.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that the basis on which proceedings should be initiated, might with the greater safety, and with the view to more early results, be the adaptation to altered circumstances of the principles laid down in the ancient Capitulations, the departure from which has led in a great measure to the evils so justly felt.

Those Capitulations, indeed, were established under a very different state of things from that which now exists, and their object was to secure foreigners from arbitrary violence and exactions on the part of the local authorities. But still, although reserving for extra-territorial tribunals exclusively the settlement of questions, whether of a civil or criminal nature, in which foreigners were alone concerned, the Capitulations did not pretend to deprive the local Government of jurisdiction over foreigners in matters, whether criminal or civil, in which they were brought into collision with the laws of the territorial Sovereign. They reserved, however, as a protection to foreigners against the arbitrary local will of tribunals, a certain right of concurrence or supervision, which might act as a check against abuse.

In process of time this check, especially in Egypt, has become the great abuse, and by degrees the authority of the local tribunals has been usurped or set aside by the encroachments of an extra-territorial jurisdiction.

This is the state of things which the Egyptian Government desire to remedy, and they cannot be more disposed to make the attempt than are Her Majesty's Government to second them in it.

Her Majesty's Government have no fondness for an extra-territorial jurisdiction, even if limited by the strict letter of the Capitulations. They would hail with the utmost satisfaction such an improvement in the judicial system of the Ottoman Empire, and specifically of Egypt, which is so important a part of it, as would justify them in altogether renouncing any judicial action in that country, and leaving the disputes of their subjects, and the crimes which they may commit, to the exclusive jurisdiction of the local Government, as is the case in other countries.

With such feelings, Her Majesty's Government are certainly not inclined to hold out for a jurisdiction to which they have no Treaty right, which they admit to be an usurpation though brought about by force of circumstances, and which is as injurious to British interests as it is derogatory to the character and well-being of the Egyptian administration.

But Her Majesty's Government consider, and they are glad to perceive that such is the ground on which the application of the Egyptian Government is founded, that foreign Powers have a right to expect that any new system which may be inaugurated in Egypt should afford ample security to the foreigner that in pleading before an Egyptian tribunal he will have nothing to apprehend from the venality, the ignorance, or the fanaticism of his Judges; that the law to be applied to his case, whether as plaintiff or defendant, shall be clear and patent to all; and that the forms of procedure, and more especially in matters of testimony, shall be well defined, and not admit of being in any point arbitrarily departed from on any ground whatever.

Her Majesty's Government consider that the course which the Egyptian Government propose to adopt for arriving at the end in view is that most likely to lead to a good result, if, as I said before, the inquiry is to be directed to what is really practicable, rather than what may be desirable in the abstract.

Her Majesty's Government will readily take part in any inquiry which may be set on

foot for this purpose; and when the Egyptian Government shall have made known to them that they have secured the consent of the other principal Powers to be represented by Commissioners in a preliminary inquiry designed to result in an improved judicial system in Egypt, Her Majesty's Government will at once name one or more Commissioners to assist on their part in the business. If, as will naturally be the case, the Commission is to sit in Egypt, Her Majesty's Government are disposed to think that instead of limiting the character of the Commissioners to that of persons possessing legal knowledge, it would be desirable that the chief political Representative of each nation should also take part in the Commission, inasmuch as political considerations are to a certain extent involved in the inquiry, and so, by such an intermixture of character among the Commissioners, predilections in favour of technicalities which might be expected to prevail in an assembly of purely legal Commissioners would in a great measure be neutralized.

You may furnish Nubar Pasha with a copy of this despatch, as containing the answer of Her Majesty's Government to the proposal which he has laid before them on behalf of the Viceroy; and you will inform his Excellency, at the same time, that Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople will, as a mark of respect due to the Sultan, be instructed to communicate it to the Porte; while Her Majesty's Representatives at other Courts will in like manner be authorized to communicate it to the Governments to which they are accredited, as an exposition of the manner in which the proposal of the Egyptian Government has been received by that of Her Majesty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

Papers respecting Judicial Reforms in Egypt.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CONVENTION

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY

AND THE

EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH,

RELATIVE TO

FISHERIES IN THE SEAS BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

WITH A CHART THERETO ANNEXED.

Signed at Paris, November 11, 1867.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

3974

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, relative to Fisheries in the Seas between Great Britain and France.

Signed at Paris, November 11, 1867.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Paris, January* 14, 1868.]

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the Emperor of the French, having charged a Mixed Commission with preparing a revision of the Convention of the 2nd of August, 1839, and of the Regulation of June 23, 1843, relative to the fisheries in the seas situated between Great Britain and France; and the members of that Commission having agreed upon certain arrangements which experience has shown would be useful, and which appear to them such as will advantageously modify and complete the former arrangements in the common interest of the fishermen of the two countries; Their said Majesties have judged it expedient that the arrangements proposed by the said Commission should be sanctioned by a new Convention, and have for that purpose named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable Richard Bickerton Pemell, Lord Lyons, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a Member of Her Britannic Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the Emperor of the French;

And His Majesty the Emperor of the French, Leonel, Marquis de Moustier, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour, &c., &c., &c., His Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

British fishermen shall enjoy the exclusive right of fishery within the distance of three miles from low-water mark, along the whole

SA Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, ayant chargé une Commission Mixte de préparer la révision de la Convention du 2 Août, 1839, et du Règlement du 23 Juin, 1843, sur les pêcheries dans les mers situées entre la Grande Bretagne et la France, et les membres de cette Commission étant tombés d'accord sur certains arrangements dont l'expérience a démontré l'utilité, et qui leur ont paru pouvoir modifier et compléter avantageusement les dispositions antérieures dans l'intérêt commun des pêcheurs des deux pays; Leurs dites Majestés ont jugé opportun que les arrangements proposés par la dite Commission Mixte fussent sanctionnés par une nouvelle Convention, et ont à cet effet nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir:—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, le Très Honorable Richard Bickerton Pemell, Lord Lyons, Pair du Royaume Uni, Membre du Très Honorable Conseil Privé de Sa Majesté Britannique, Chevalier Grand-Croix du Très Honorable Ordre du Bain, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Britannique près Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français;

Et Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Français, M. Léonel, Marquis de Moustier, Grand-Croix de Son Ordre Impérial de la Légion d'Honneur, &c., &c., &c., Son Ministre et Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Affaires Etrangères;

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué réciproquement leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, ont arrêté et conclu les Articles suivants:—

ARTICLE I.

Les pêcheurs Français jouiront du droit exclusif de pêche dans le rayon de trois milles, à partir de la laisse de basse mer, le

extent of the coasts of the British islands; and French fishermen shall enjoy the exclusive right of fishery within the distance of three miles from low-water mark along the whole extent of the coast of France; the only exception to this rule being that part of the coast of France which lies between Cape Carteret and Point Meinga.

The distance of three miles fixed as the general limit for the exclusive right of fishery upon the coasts of the two countries shall, with respect to bays, the mouths of which do not exceed ten miles in width, be measured from a straight line drawn from headland to headland.

The miles mentioned in the present Convention are geographical miles, whereof sixty make a degree of latitude.

ARTICLE II.

It is agreed that the lines drawn between the points designated by the letters A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, on the chart annexed to the present Convention, and signed by the respective Plenipotentiaries, shall be acknowledged by the High Contracting Parties, as defining from Point Meinga to Cape Carteret, the limits between which and the French shore the right of fishery shall be reserved exclusively to French fishermen, and these lines are as follows, that is to say:—

The first line runs from the point A, three miles from low-water mark (Point Meinga bearing south) to the point B, of which the landmarks are Agon Tower, on with the clump of trees upon Mount Huchon, and the summit of Gros Mont in a line with the semaphore on Grand Isle.

The second line runs from the said point B towards Agon Tower and the clump of trees upon Mount Huchon, in the direction north sixty-four degrees east, until, at the point C, it brings the windmill of Lingreville to bear due east.

The third line runs from point C due east towards Lingreville windmill, until the Grand Huguenant is brought to bear on the Etat Rock at point D.

The fourth line runs from point D northward (keeping the Grand Huguenant in one with the Etat Rock), until it intersects at E a line whose landmarks are Agon Tower on with Coutances Cathedral.

The fifth line runs eastward from point E to point F, where the steeple of Pirou is brought to bear in a line with the Sennequet Lighthouse.

The sixth line runs from point F due north to point G, where the steeple of Blainville is brought in a line with the Sennequet Lighthouse.

The seventh line runs from point G in

long de toute l'étendue des côtes de France; et les pêcheurs Britanniques jouiront du droit exclusif de pêche dans un rayon de trois milles de la laisse de basse mer, le long de toute l'étendue des côtes des Iles Britanniques. Il ne sera dérogé à cette règle que pour la partie des côtes de France comprise entre la pointe du Meinga et le Cap Carteret.

Le rayon de trois milles fixant la limite générale du droit exclusif de pêche sur les côtes des deux pays sera mesurée, pour les baies dont l'ouverture n'excèdera pas dix milles, à partir d'une ligne droite allant d'un cap à l'autre.

Les milles mentionnés en la présente Convention sont des milles géographiques de soixante au degré de latitude.

ARTICLE II.

Il est convenu que les lignes tracées entre les points indiqués par les lettres A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, K, sur la carte annexée à la présente Convention, et signée par les Plénipotentiaires respectifs, seront reconnues par les Hautes Parties Contractantes comme déterminant, à partir de la pointe de Meinga jusqu'au Cap Carteret, les limites en dedans desquelles le droit de pêche sera exclusivement réservé aux pêcheurs Français; ces lignes sont comme suit:—

La première ligne se dirige du point A à trois milles de la laisse de basse mer (la pointe de Meinga restant au sud) jusqu'au point B, dont les amers sont la Tour d'Agon par la touffe d'arbres sur le Mont Huchon, et le sommet de Gros Mont en ligne avec le sémaphore de Grande Ile.

La seconde ligne court du dit point B vers la Tour d'Agon et la touffe d'arbres sur le Mont Huchon dans la direction nord, soixante-quatre degrés est, jusqu'à relever, au point C, le moulin de Lingreville, à l'est du Monde.

Partant du point C, la troisième ligne court est du Monde, vers le moulin de Lingreville, jusqu'à ramener, au point D, le rocher l'Etat par le Grand Huguenant.

La quatrième ligne se dirige du point D, vers le nord (relevant toujours l'Etat par le Grand Huguenant) jusqu'à la section en E d'une ligne ayant pour amers la Tour d'Agon par la Cathédrale de Coutances.

La cinquième ligne court dans la direction de l'est, du point E au point F, où le clocher de Pirou se relève par le phare de Sennequet.

La sixième ligne partant du point F se dirige vers le nord du Monde jusqu'au point G, dont les amers sont le clocher de Blainville par le phare de Sennequet.

La septième ligne court du point G vers

CARTE
DES CÔTES DE FRANCE

PARTIE COMPRISE ENTRE LE CAP FREHEL ET LE HAVRE DE CARTERET

Levée en 1829. 1831 et 1832.

Par les Ingénieurs Hydrographes de la Marine.

Sous les ordres de M. Beautemps-Beaupré, *Ingénieur Hydrographe en Chef,*
Membre de l'Académie Royale des Sciences et du Bureau des Longitudes.

PUBLIÉE PAR ORDRE DU ROI

Sous le Ministère de M. DUCAMPE DE ROSAMEL
Vice-Amiral, Membre de la Chambre des Députés,
Secrétaire d'Etat au Département de la Marine et des Colonies.

Au Dépôt-général de la Marine
en 1838.

Baubigny
St Pierre les Moutiers
La Haye d'Ectot
Carteret
Barneville
Cap de Carteret
Phare. Feux à éclipses.
Chapelle St Jean
Saint George
Havre de Carteret
Port Bail
Gouey
Omonville
Denneville
Les Roches Eclen
Le Taillepied
Saint Remy
Surville
Glatigny
Mont Garden
Bretteville
Angeville
Veslé
Saint Germain
Lessay
Havre de St Germain
Créance
Pirou
Milhères
Basses Nord-Ouest des Bœufs
Basse Orientale
Basse Occid des Bœufs
Chaussée des Bœufs
Le Bœuf
Basse Jourdan
Le Senequet
Anneville
Montsurvent
Montcarville
Gouville
Linverville
Geffosse
Mont Huchon
St Malo de la Lande
Blainville
Gratot
Les Nattes
Basse Le Marié
Agon
Tourville
COUTANCES
Pte de la Roque
Grimouville
Mont Chaton
Regneville
Roches d'Agon
Ronquet
Havre de Regneville
Mont-Martin
Le Gallon
Hauteville
Heuguerville
Anneville
Le Mallard
La Cathene
Moulin de Lingreville

CHART ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AN

Longitude Occidentale

du Méridien de l'Observatoire Royal de Paris.

SERCQ

Burons

Blanchart

Les Têtes Conchée

Les Vingt-Clos

Banc Desermes

Pierres de Lecq ou Pater Noster

Banc du Nord - Ouest

Cap Grosnez

Pinnacle

Le Tac

Plateau Rigdon

Baie de St. Owen

St. Owen

St Marie

Saint Pierre

St Aubin

Les Boiteux

Bae de St Aubin

Hubaut

Grande du Nord Ouest

Brisants du Nord-Ouest

Dérée Anglaise

Les Hupées

Maisons

LES ECRÉHOU

LES DIROUILLES

La Plate

Grande Rousse

L'Ecrivière

Les Dirouilles

Pte Belle Hogue

Le Sambue

I. de Montmado

Anse du Bouley

Havre du Rosel

Pte de la Coupe

Mlle du Rosel

La Trinité

JERSEY

Saint Martin

T.de St Catherine

T.d'Archirondel

Le Vieux Château

Tour d'Auvergne

Bancs du Vieux Château

St HÉLIER

Grouville

Mlle de Grouville

Tour

Tour de la Roque

Tour de Seymour

Tour d'Odet

Echiquelez

Plateau des Trois Grunes

Plateau des Arconies

Plateau de la Fourque

La Fourque Aubert

La Rousse

La Coubrière

La Couchée

Les Ams

Pte Anquette

B. Nord de l'Anquette

B. Nord-Est de l'Anquette

B. Nord-Est des Caux

Les Caux des Minquiers

Petit Vaccelin

Grune Gauvin

Vaccelin

Le Naisible

Le Finchcur

Mauresse-Ile

Latitude Septentrionale

PLATEAU DES MINQUIERS

ENTRÉE DE LA RADE

Roches du Sud

Grune à Groc

Le Fourchu

Basse du Sud

Dirée Française

Brisants du Sud

Les Pointues

La Seudrée

Les Sauvages

Les Rondes de l'Ouest

La Corbinais

Basse Trouvée

Basse des Sauvages

Basse Grune

Basse Rault

Basse du Nid

Rocheforts

Les Tintiaux

Basse de Bofor

Les Roches de la Goulée

Les Pierres aux Normands

Les Chaumes

Le Harbour

Le Pilier

Le Verdelet

Le Grouin

Cap et Phare de Fréhel

Amas du Cap

Roche Bune de l'Escadrée

Basses de la Latte

Pte de la Latte

Pte de la Tiaigne

Plehérel

Les Bourdinots

Pte de St Cast

Anse de St Cast

Pte de la Garde

Télégraphe de St Cast

Baie de la Fresnaye

Ile des Ebihens

Pte du Décollé

St Lunaire

St Briac

Lancieux

St Servan

St Coulomb

Saint Hyderne

Paramé

SAINT MALO

Pte de Terpuelé

Pte du Minguy

Pte du Nid

Pte de Caseveld

Anse de Moulinsart

Les Bancs

Les Ardentes

Sable

Banc

AVERTISSEMENT

Les Chiffres de Sondes expriment en Pieds de France les profondeurs de l'eau rapportées au niveau des plus basses mers

Les Chiffres soulignés expriment en Pieds de France les élévations des Plages ainsi que des Dangers isolés qui couvrent et découvrent au dessus du même niveau

Ceux de ces chiffres qui sont précédés d'un petit trait ont été tirés des Cartes levées par M. Martin White *Capitaine de Vaisseau de la Marine Royale d'Angleterre*

Nous avons tiré aussi des Cartes de M. Martin White *presque tous les details des côtes des Iles Jersey Guernesey et Aurigny*

Déclinaison

DÉPARTEMENT

Longitude Occidentale du Méridien de l'Obs

Engraved by JAs WYLD, Geographer to the

toire Royal de Paris.

Charing Cross East.

the direction of Pirou steeple to point H, where the lighthouse on Cape Carteret bears north twenty-four degrees west.

The eighth line runs from point H to point I nearly abreast of Port Bail; point I having for landmarks the fort of Port Bail in a line with the steeple of Port Bail.

And finally, the ninth line runs from point I to the Three Grunes at point K, where Cape Carteret bears east ten degrees north, in a line with Barneville steeple.

It is further agreed that all the bearings specified in the present Article are to be taken according to the true meridian, and not according to the magnetic meridian.

le clocher de Pirou jusqu'au point H, où le phare du Cap Carteret reste au nord, vingt-quatre degrès ouest.

La huitième ligne court du point H, au point I, qui est à peu près par le travers de Port Bail, et qui a pour amers le fort de Port Bail, en ligne avec le clocher de Port Bail.

La neuvième ligne, enfin, court du point I, aux Trois Grunes, point K, où le Cap Carteret reste à l'est dix degrés nord par le clocher de Barneville.

Il est en outre convenu que tous les relèvements désignés au présent Article sont corrigés de la variation du compas, et non calculés d'après le méridien magnétique.

ARTICLE III.

The arrangements of the present Convention shall apply beyond the fishery limits of both countries, as defined by the preceding Articles, to the seas surrounding and adjoining Great Britain and Ireland, and adjoining the coasts of France between the frontiers of Belgium and Spain. The rules respecting oyster fishery shall, however, be observed only in the seas comprised within the limits hereinafter described.

ARTICLE III.

Les dispositions de la présente Convention seront applicables au-delà des limites de pêche des deux pays, telles qu'elles sont définies par les Articles précédents, dans les mers qui baignent les côtes de France, depuis la frontière Belge, jusqu'à la frontière d'Espagne, et dans celles qui entourent la Grande Bretagne et l'Irlande. Toutefois, les mesures concernant la pêche des huitres ne devront être observées que dans les mers comprises entre les limites indiquées ci-après.

ARTICLE IV.

All British and French fishing-boats shall be lettered and numbered.

In the United Kingdom, there shall be a series of numbers for the fishing-boats belonging to each collectorship of Customs, and in France a series of numbers for the fishing-boats belonging to each district of Maritime Registry; and to these numbers shall be prefixed a letter (or letters) to be designated by the Board of Customs in the United Kingdom, and by the Ministry of Marine in France.

ARTICLE IV.

Tous les bateaux de pêche Français et Britanniques seront numérotés et marqués.

En France, les bateaux de pêche appartenant à un même quartier d'inscription maritime, et, dans le Royaume Uni, ceux appartenant à une même direction des Douanes, devront avoir une même série de numéros, précédés de lettres initiales qui seront indiquées par la Direction Générale des Douanes dans le Royaume Uni, et par le Ministre de la Marine en France.

ARTICLE V.

The letter (or letters) and number shall be placed on each bow of the boat, three or four inches (eight or ten centimetres French) below the gunwale, and they shall be painted in white oil colour on a black ground.

For boats of fifteen tons burthen and upwards the dimensions of the letters and numbers shall be eighteen inches (forty-five centimetres French) in height, and two and a-half inches (six centimetres French) in breadth.

For boats of less than fifteen tons burthen, the dimensions shall be ten inches (twenty-five centimetres French) in height, and one and three quarter inches (four centimetres French) in breadth.

ARTICLE V.

Les lettres et les numéros seront placés sur chaque côté de l'avant du bateau, à huit ou dix centimètres (trois ou quatre pouces Anglais) au-dessous du plat bord, et devront être peints en blanc, à l'huile, sur un fond noir.

Les dimensions de ces lettres et de ces numéros seront, pour les bateaux de quinze tonneaux et au-dessus, de quarante-cinq centimètres (dix-huit pouces Anglais) de hauteur, sur six centimètres (deux pouces et demi Anglais) de trait.

Pour les bateaux au-dessous de quinze tonneaux, ces dimensions seront de vingt-cinq centimètres (dix pouces Anglais) de hauteur, sur quatre centimètres (un pouce trois quarts Anglais) de trait.

The same letter (or letters) and number shall also be painted on each side of the mainsail of the boat, in black oil colour on white sails, and in white oil colour on tanned or black sails. Such letter (or letters) and number on the sails shall be one-third larger in every way than those placed on the bows of the boat.

The name of each fishing boat, and that of the port to which she belongs, shall be painted in white oil colour on a black ground on the stern of the boat, in letters which shall be at least three inches (eight centimetres French) in height and half an inch (twelve millimetres French) in breadth.

The letters, numbers, and names placed on the boats and on their sails shall not be effaced, covered, or concealed in any manner whatsoever.

Les mêmes lettres et numéros seront également placés sur chaque côté de la grande voile du bateau, et peints à l'huile, en noir sur les voiles blanches, et en blanc, aussi à l'huile, sur les voiles tannées ou noires. Ces lettres et numéros ainsi portés sur les voiles auront un tiers de plus de dimension en tout sens que ceux placés à l'avant du bateau.

Le nom de chaque bateau de pêche, ainsi que celui du port auquel il appartient, seront peints à l'huile en blanc sur un fond noir, sur l'arrière de ce bateau, en caractères qui devront avoir au moins huit centimètres (trois pouces Anglais) de hauteur et douze millimètres (un demi pouce Anglais) de trait.

Il est défendu d'effacer, de couvrir ou de cacher par un moyen quelconque, les lettres, les numéros, et les noms placés sur les bateaux et sur les voiles.

ARTICLE VI.

All the buoys, barrels and principal floats of each net, and all other implements of fishery, shall be marked with the same letter (or letters) and number as those of the boats to which they belong.

These letters and numbers shall be large enough to be easily distinguished. The owners of the nets or other fishing implements may further distinguish them by any private marks they judge proper.

ARTICLE VI.

Les lettres et les numéros affectés à chaque bateau seront portés sur les bouées, barils, et flottes principales de chaque filet, et sur tous autres instruments de pêche appartenant à ce bateau.

Ces lettres et ces numéros seront de dimension suffisante pour être facilement reconnus. Les propriétaires de filets ou autres instruments de pêche pourront, en outre, les marquer de tels signes particuliers qu'ils jugeront convenable.

ARTICLE VII.

The letters and numbers of British fishing boats shall, after having been entered in the registry book kept at the collectorship of Customs, be inserted on the licences or other official papers of those boats.

The letters and numbers of French fishing boats shall, after having been entered in the registry book kept at the Maritime Registry Office, be inserted on the muster rolls of those boats.

ARTICLE VII.

Les lettres et les numéros des bateaux de pêche Français seront consignés sur les rôles d'équipage de ces bateaux après avoir été annotés sur la matricule des bateaux, tenue au bureau de l'inscription maritime.

Les lettres et les numéros des bateaux de pêche Britanniques seront consignés sur les congés de ces bateaux ou autres papiers de bord, après avoir été annotés sur la matricule des bateaux tenue au bureau de la Direction des Douanes.

ARTICLE VIII.

The licences or other official papers of British fishing boats, and the muster rolls of French fishing boats, shall contain the description and tonnage of each boat, as well as the names of its owner and of its master.

ARTICLE VIII.

Les rôles d'équipage des bateaux de pêche Français, comme les congés ou autres papiers de bord des bateaux de pêche Britanniques, contiendront la description et le tonnage de chaque bateau, ainsi que les noms du propriétaire et du patron.

ARTICLE IX.

The fishermen of both countries shall, whenever required, exhibit their licences or other official papers, or their muster rolls, to the commanders of the fishery cruizers, and

ARTICLE IX.

Les pêcheurs de l'un et de l'autre pays seront tenus, toutes les fois qu'ils en seront requis, d'exhiber leurs rôles d'équipage, leurs congés ou autres papiers de bord aux

to all other persons of either country appointed to superintend the fisheries.

ARTICLE X.

Fishing of all kinds, by whatever means and at all seasons, may be carried on in the seas lying beyond the fishery limits which have been fixed for the two countries, with the exception of that for oysters, as hereinafter expressed.

ARTICLE XI.

From the 16th of June to the 31st of August inclusive, fishing for oysters is prohibited outside the fishery limits which have been fixed for the two countries, between a line drawn from the North Foreland Light to Dunkirk, and a line drawn from the Land's End to Ushant.

During the same period and in the same part of the Channel, no boat shall have on board any oyster dredge, unless the same be tied up and sealed by the Customs authorities of one of the two countries in such a manner as to prevent its being made use of.

ARTICLE XII.

No boat shall anchor between sunset and sunrise on grounds where drift-net fishing is actually going on.

This prohibition shall not apply to anchorings which may take place in consequence of accidents, or any other compulsory circumstances; but in such case the master of the boat thus obliged to anchor shall hoist, so that they shall be seen from a distance, two lights placed horizontally about three feet (one metre French) apart, and shall keep those lights up all the time the boat shall remain at anchor.

ARTICLE XIII.

Boats fishing with drift nets shall carry on one of their masts two lights, one over the other, three feet (one metre French) apart.

These lights shall be kept up during all the time their nets shall be in the sea between sunset and sunrise.

ARTICLE XIV.

Subject to the exceptions or additions mentioned in the two preceding Articles, the fishing boats of the two countries shall conform to the general rules respecting lights which have been adopted by the two countries.

commandants des bâtiments gardes pêches, ainsi qu'à tous autres agents préposés, dans les deux pays, à la police des pêches.

ARTICLE X.

Toute espèce de pêche, par quelque procédé que ce soit, pourra être pratiquée, en toute saison, dans les mers situées en dehors des limites de pêche qui ont été fixées pour les deux pays. Il n'est fait d'exception à cette régle que pour la pêche des huitres, ainsi qu'il est dit ci-après.

ARTICLE XI.

Il est défendu de pêcher des huitres, du 16 Juin au 31 Août inclusivement, en dehors des limites de pêche qui ont été fixées pour les deux pays, entre les lignes joignant d'une part Dunkerque au phare de North Foreland, et de l'autre Ouessant au Cap Land's-end.

Pendant la même période et dans la même partie de la Manche, les bateaux ne devront avoir à bord aucune drague à huitres, à moins que cette drague ne soit plombée par la Douane de l'un ou de l'autre des deux pays, de telle sorte qu'on ne puisse pas en faire usage.

ARTICLE XII.

Il est défendu à tout batiment ou embarcation de mouiller, entre le coucher et le lever du soleil, dans les parages où se trouvent établis des pêcheurs aux filets dérivants.

Cette défense ne s'applique pas à des mouillages qui auraient lieu par suite d'accidents ou par toute autre circonstance de force majeure; mais, dans ce cas, le patron du bateau qui aura été dans la nécessité de mouiller, sera tenu d'arborer, pour être vus de loin, deux feux placés horizontalement à un mètre (trois pieds Anglais) environ de distance l'un de l'autre, et de les tenir arborés pendant tout le temps que le bateau restera à l'ancre.

ARTICLE XIII.

Les bateaux qui font la pêche avec des filets dérivants seront tenus d'arborer deux feux sur un de leurs mâts, à un mètre (trois pieds Anglais) l'un au-dessus de l'autre.

Ces feux resteront arborés pendant tout le temps que leurs filets seront à la mer, entre le coucher et le lever du soleil.

ARTICLE XIV.

Indépendamment des dispositions spéciales indiquées dans les deux Articles précédents, les bateaux pêcheurs des deux pays se conformeront aux règles générales relatives aux feux adoptées pour les deux pays.

ARTICLE XV.

Trawl boats shall not commence fishing at a less distance than three miles from any boat fishing with drift nets.

If trawl boats have already shot their nets, they must not come nearer to boats fishing with drift nets than the distance above-mentioned.

ARTICLE XVI.

No boat fishing with drift nets shall shoot its nets so near to any other boat which has already shot its nets on the fishing ground, as to interfere with its operations.

ARTICLE XVII.

No decked boat fishing with drift nets shall shoot its nets at a less distance than a quarter of a mile from any undecked boat which is already engaged in fishing.

ARTICLE XVIII.

If the spot where fishing is going on should be so near to the fishery limits of one of the two countries that the boats of the other country would, by observing the regulations prescribed by Articles XV, XVI, and XVII preceding, be prevented from taking part in the fishery, such boats shall be at liberty to shoot their nets at a less distance than that so prescribed: but in such case the fishermen shall be responsible for any damage or losses which may be caused by the drifting of their boats.

ARTICLE XIX.

Nets shall not be set or anchored in any place where drift-net fishing is actually going on.

ARTICLE XX.

No one shall make fast or hold on his boat to the nets, buoys, floats, or any part of the fishing tackle belonging to another boat.

No person shall hook or lift up the nets, lines, or other fishing implements, belonging to another person.

ARTICLE XXI.

When nets of different boats get foul of each other, the master of one boat shall not cut the nets of another boat, except by mutual consent, and unless it

ARTICLE XV.

Il est défendu aux bateaux chalutiers de mettre en pêche à une distance moindre que trois milles de tout bateau faisant la pêche avec des filets dérivants.

Si les bateaux chalutiers ont déjà leurs filets à la mer, ils ne pourront s'approcher des bateaux pêchant avec des filets dérivants à une distance moindre que celle qui vient d'être indiquée.

ARTICLE XVI.

Il est défendu à tout bateau faisant la pêche avec des filets dérivants de jeter ses filets assez près d'un bateau déjà occupé à la même pêche, pour que les mouvements de celui-ci en soient gênés.

ARTICLE XVII.

Aucun bateau ponté faisant la pêche avec des filets dérivants ne devra jeter ses filets à une distance moindre qu'un quart de mille des bateaux non pontés déjà occupés à la pêche.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Si le point où sont établis les bateaux est tellement rapproché des limites de pêche de l'un des deux pays, que les bateaux de l'autre pays, en observant les règles mentionnées ci-dessus, aux Articles XV, XVI, et XVII, ne puissent prendre part à la pêche, ces derniers auront la faculté de jeter leurs filets à une distance moindre que celle qui leur est prescrite; mais, dans ce cas, les pêcheurs seront responsables des dommages qui seraient occasionnés par la dérive de leurs bateaux.

ARTICLE XIX.

Il est défendu de placer des filets fixes sur les fonds où la pêche aux filets dérivants est pratiquée.

ARTICLE XX.

Nul ne pourra amarrer ni tenir son bateau sur les filets, bouées, flottes, ou aucune partie de l'attirail de pêche appartenant à un autre bateau.

Il est défendu à toute personne de crocher ou de soulever les filets, lignes, ou autres instruments de pêche appartenant à d'autres.

ARTICLE XXI.

Dans le cas où des filets de différents bateaux viendraient à se mêler, aucun patron ne pourra couper les filets d'un autre bateau que d'un commun accord et qu'après qu'il

be found impossible to clear them by other means.

ARTICLE XXII.

All fishing boats, all rigging gear, or other appurtenances of fishing boats, all nets, buoys, floats, or other fishing implements whatsoever found or picked up at sea, shall, as soon as possible, be delivered to the Receiver of Wreck if the article saved be taken into the United Kingdom, and to the Commissary of Marine if the article saved be taken into France.

The Receiver of Wreck or the Commissary of Marine, as the case may be, shall restore the articles saved to the owners thereof, or to their representatives.

These functionaries shall fix the amount which the owners shall pay to the salvors.

ARTICLE XXIII.

The execution of the regulations concerning lights and signals, licences, muster rolls, and official papers, the lettering and numbering of boats and implements of fishing, is placed, with respect to the fishermen of each of the two nations, under the exclusive superintendence of the cruizers and agents of their own nation.

Nevertheless, the commanders of the cruizers of one of the two nations shall acquaint the commanders of the cruizers of the other nation with any infractions of the above-mentioned regulations committed by the fishermen of such other nation which may come to their knowledge.

ARTICLE XXIV.

All infractions of the Regulations concerning the placing of boats on the fishing ground, the distances to be observed between them, the prohibition of oyster fishing during a portion of the year, and concerning every other operation connected with the act of fishing, and more particularly concerning circumstances likely to cause damage, shall be taken cognizance of by the cruizers of either nation, whichever may be the nation to which the fishermen guilty of such infractions may belong.

ARTICLE XXV.

The commanders of cruizers of either country shall exercise their judgment as to the causes of any infractions brought to their knowledge, or as to damage arising from any cause whatever, committed by British or French fishing boats in the seas beyond the fishery limits which have been

aura été reconnu impossible de les séparer par d'autres moyens.

ARTICLE XXII.

Tout bateau de pêche, tout objet d'armement ou de gréement de bateau de pêche, tout filet, bouée, flotte, ou instrument quelconque de pêche trouvé ou recueilli en mer, devra, aussitôt que possible, être remis au Receveur des Droits de Bris et Naufrages si l'objet sauvé est amené en Angleterre, et au Commissaire de l'Inscription Maritime si l'objet sauvé est amené en France.

Le Receveur des Droits de Bris et Naufrages ou le Commissaire de l'Inscription Maritime, suivant le cas, rendra les objets sauvés aux propriétaires ou à leurs représentants.

Ces administrateurs fixeront l'indemnité que les propriétaires devront payer aux sauveteurs.

ARTICLE XXIII.

L'exécution des règles concernant les feux et signaux, le rôle d'équipage, le congé ou autres papiers de bord, la marque et le numérotage des bateaux et instruments de pêche, est placée, à l'égard des pêcheurs de chacune des deux nations, sous la surveillance exclusive des bâtiments croiseurs et des agents de leur propre nation.

Toutefois, les commandants des bâtiments croiseurs de chacune des deux nations se signaleront mutuellement les infractions aux dites règles, commises par les pêcheurs de l'autre nation et dont ils auront eu connaissance.

ARTICLE XXIV.

Toutes infractions aux règles prescrites pour le placement des bateaux sur le lieu de la pêche, pour les distances à observer entre eux, pour l'interdiction de la pêche des huitres pendant une période de l'année, enfin pour tout ce qui concerne en général les opérations de pêche, et plus particulièrement les faits qui seraient de nature à occasionner des dommages, sont de la compétence des croiseurs des deux nations, quelle que soit d'ailleurs la nation à laquelle appartiendront les pêcheurs qui commettraient ces infractions.

ARTICLE XXV.

Les commandants des bâtiments croiseurs des deux pays apprécieront les causes de toute contravention parvenue à leur connaissance, ou de tout dommage, quelle qu'en soit la cause, commis par les bateaux de pêche Britanniques et Français dans les mers situées au-delà des limites de pêche qui ont

fixed for the two countries; they may detain the offending boats and take them into the port nearest the scene of the occurrence, in order that the infraction or damage may be there duly established, as well by comparing the declarations and counter-declarations of the parties interested, as by the testimony of those who were present.

ARTICLE XXVI.

When the offence shall not be such as to require exemplary punishment, but shall nevertheless have caused damage to any fisherman, the commanders of the cruizers shall be at liberty, should the circumstances admit of it, to arbitrate at sea between the parties concerned. On refusal of the offenders to defer to their arbitration, the said commanders shall take both them and their boats into the nearest port, to be dealt with as stated in the preceding Article.

ARTICLE XXVII.

Every fishing boat which shall have been taken into a foreign port in conformity with the two preceding Articles, shall be sent back to her own country for trial as soon as the infraction for which she may have been detained shall have been duly established. Neither the boat nor her crew shall, however, be detained in the foreign port more than three clear days.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

The depositions, minutes of proceedings, and all other documents concerning the infraction, after having been authenticated by the Collector of Customs in the United Kingdom, or by the Commissary of Marine in France, shall be transmitted by that functionary to the Consular Agent of his nation residing in the port where the trial is to take place.

Such Consular Agent shall communicate those documents to the Collector of Customs, or to the Commissary of Marine, as the case may be; and if, after having conferred with that functionary, it shall be necessary for the interest of his countrymen, he shall proceed with the affair before the competent tribunal or magistrates of the country.

ARTICLE XXIX.

In both countries the competent Court or magistrate shall be empowered to condemn to a fine of at least eight shillings (ten francs), or to imprisonment for at least two days, persons who may infringe the regulations of the Convention concerning—

été fixées pour les deux pays; ils arrêteront les bateaux et pourront les conduire dans le port le plus rapproché du lieu de l'événement, pour que la contravention ou le dommage y soit constaté, tant par les déclarations contradictoires des parties intéressées, que par le témoignage des personnes qui ont vu les faits.

ARTICLE XXVI.

Lorsque les contraventions ne seront pas de nature à nécessiter une punition exemplaire, et qu'elles auront néanmoins occasionné des dommages à quelque pêcheur, les Commandants des bâtiments croiseurs pourront concilier à la mer, s'il y a lieu, les parties intéressées. Sur le refus des délinquants d'obtempérer à leur arbitrage, les dits Commandants les conduiront, eux et leurs bateaux, dans le port le plus rapproché, pour qu'il y soit procédé, à leur égard, comme il est dit dans l'Article précédent.

ARTICLE XXVII.

Tout bateau de pêche qui aura été conduit dans un port étranger, conformément aux deux Articles qui précèdent, sera renvoyé dans son pays pour y être jugé, aussitôt que la transgression pour laquelle il aura été arrêté sera constatée. Ce bateau ni son équipage ne pourront d'ailleurs être retenus dans le port étranger plus de trois jours francs.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

Les rapports, procès-verbaux, et toutes autres pièces concernant la contravention, après avoir été visés par le Directeur des Douanes dans le Royaume Uni, ou par le Commissaire de l'Inscription Maritime en France, seront adressés par cet Administrateur à l'Agent Consulaire de sa nation établi dans le port où le jugement devra avoir lieu.

Cet Agent Consulaire communiquera ces pièces, suivant le cas, au Directeur des Douanes ou au Commissaire de l'Inscription Maritime; et si, après avoir conféré avec cet Administrateur, il y a lieu pour lui d'agir dans l'intérêt de ses nationaux, il interviendra auprès du tribunal ou des magistrats compétents.

ARTICLE XXIX.

Dans les deux pays, le tribunal ou les magistrats compétents seront autorisés à condamner à une amende de dix francs (huit shellings) au moins, ou à un emprisonnement de deux jours au moins, ceux qui contreviendront aux dispositions de la Convention, en ce qui concerne—

1. The close season for oysters, and illegal possession of dredges on board during that season;

2. The letters, numbers, and names to be placed on the boats, sails, nets, and buoys;

3. The licences or muster rolls;

4. The flags and lights to be carried by the boats;

5. The distances to be observed by the boats between each other;

6. The placing and anchoring of vessels and boats;

7. The placing and shooting of nets and the taking them up;

8. The clearing of nets;

9. The placing of buoys upon nets.

In case of repetition of the offence, the amount of fine or period of imprisonment may be doubled.

1. La période de clôture de la pêche des huitres, et la présence illicite de dragues à bord pendant cette période;

2. Les lettres, les numéros, et les noms à placer sur les bateaux, les voiles, les filets, et les bouées;

3. Les rôles d'équipage ou les congés;

4. Les pavillons et les feux que les bateaux sont tenus d'arborer;

5. Les distances que les bateaux doivent observer entre eux;

6. Le placement et le mouillage des bâtiments ou embarcations;

7. Le placement ou le jet des filets et le retrait des filets;

8. Le dégagement des filets;

9. Les bouées à placer sur les filets.

En cas de récidive, l'amende ou l'emprisonnement pourra être doublé.

ARTICLE XXX.

In all cases of assault committed, or of damage or loss inflicted at sea by fishermen of either country upon fishermen of the other country, the Courts of the country to which the offenders belong shall condemn the latter to a fine of at least eight shillings (ten francs), or to imprisonment for at least two days. They may, moreover, condemn the offenders to pay adequate compensation for the injury.

ARTICLE XXX.

Toutes les fois que des pêcheurs de l'un des deux pays se seront livrés en mer à des voies de fait contre les pêcheurs de l'autre pays, ou leur auront occasionné des dommages ou des pertes, les Tribunaux du pays auquel appartiendront les délinquants pourront condamner ceux-ci à une amende de dix francs (huit shellings) au moins, ou à un emprisonnement de deux jours au moins. Ils pourront en outre condamner les délinquants à des dommages intérêts proportionnés au préjudice causé.

ARTICLE XXXI.

Fishing-boats of either of the two countries shall be admitted to sell their fish in such ports of the other country as may be designated for that purpose, on condition that they conform to the regulations mutually agreed upon. Those regulations, together with a list of the ports, are annexed to the present Convention; but without prejudice to the opening by either country of any additional ports.

ARTICLE XXXI.

Les bateaux de pêche de l'un des deux pays seront admis à vendre leur poisson dans les ports de l'autre pays désignés à cet effet, à la condition que ces bateaux se conformeront aux règles déterminées dans la Déclaration ci-annexée, à laquelle est jointe la liste des ports; toutefois, dans l'un ou l'autre pays, de nouveaux ports pourront être désignés pour la vente du poisson.

ARTICLE XXXII.

The fishing-boats of the one country shall not enter within the fishery limits fixed for the other country, except under the following circumstances:—

1. When driven by stress of weather or by evident damage.

2. When carried in by contrary winds, by strong tides, or by any other cause beyond the control of the master and crew.

ARTICLE XXXII.

Les bateaux de pêche de l'un des deux pays ne pourront franchir les limites de pêche qui ont été fixées pour l'autre pays, excepté dans les circonstances suivantes:—

1. Quand ils y seront forcés pour cause de mauvais temps, ou en raison d'avaries manifestes.

2. Quand ils seront portés en dedans des limites par les vents contraires, par de forts courants, ou par toute autre cause indépendante de la volonté du patron et de l'équipage.

3. When obliged by contrary winds or tide to beat up in order to reach their fishing ground; and when from the same cause of contrary wind or tide they could not, if they remained outside, be able to hold on their course to their fishing ground.

4. When during the herring fishing season the herring-boats of the one country shall find it necessary to anchor under shelter of the coasts of the other country, in order to await the opportunity for proceeding to their fishing-ground.

5. When proceeding to any of the ports of the other country open to them for the sale of fish in accordance with the preceding Article; but in such case they shall never have oyster dredges on board.

ARTICLE XXXIII.

When fishing-boats, availing themselves of the privilege specified in Article XXXI, shall have oysters on board, they shall not carry any dredges or other implement for taking oysters.

ARTICLE XXXIV.

The commanders of cruisers may authorize boats belonging to their own country to cross the exclusive fishery limits of the other country, whenever the weather is so threatening as to compel them to seek shelter.

ARTICLE XXXV.

Whenever, owing to any of the exceptional circumstances specified in the three preceding Articles, the fishing-boats of either country shall be in the ports or within the fishery limits fixed for the other country, the masters of such boats shall immediately hoist a blue flag two feet (sixty centimetres French) high, and three feet (one metre French) long, and shall keep that flag flying at the masthead so long as they remain in such ports or within such limits. The flag shall be hauled down as soon as the boat is outside the said limits.

Such boats must return outside the said limits as soon as the exceptional circumstances which obliged them to enter shall have ceased.

ARTICLE XXXVI.

The commanders of the cruizers of each of the two countries, and all officers or other agents appointed to superintend fisheries, shall exercise their judgment as to infrac-

3. Quand ils seront obligés de louvoyer, à cause du vent contraire ou de la marée, pour arriver au lieu où ils vont exécuter leur pêche, et quand, par suite de la même cause de vent ou de marée contraires, ils ne pourraient, en restant au large, continuer leur route pour se rendre au dit lieu de pêche.

4. Quand, pendant la saison de la pêche du hareng, les bateaux harenguiers de l'un des deux pays auront besoin de mouiller à l'abri des côtes de l'autre pays, en attendant qu'ils puissent continuer la pêche.

5. Quand ils feront route pour l'un des ports de l'autre pays ouverts à la vente du poisson, ainsi qu'il est dit à l'Article précédent. Dans ce cas ils ne devront jamais avoir de dragues à huitres à bord.

ARTICLE XXXIII.

Lorsque les bateaux de pêche, profitant de la faculté accordée par l'Article XXXI, auront des huitres à bord, ils ne devront être porteurs ni de dragues ni d'aucun engin à l'aide duquel on peut pêcher des huitres.

ARTICLE XXXIV.

Les commandants des bâtiments croiseurs pourront autoriser les bateaux de leur pays à franchir les limites de pêche de l'autre pays, lorsque le temps s'annoncera de manière à rendre la relâche nécessaire.

ARTICLE XXXV.

Toutes les fois qu'en raison de quelqu'une des circonstances exceptionnelles indiquées dans les trois Articles précédents, les bateaux de pêche de l'un ou de l'autre pays se trouveront dans les ports ou en dedans des limites de pêche qui ont été fixées pour l'autre pays, les patrons de ces bateaux arboreront immédiatement un pavillon bleu de soixante centimètres (deux pieds Anglais) de hauteur, sur un mètre (trois pieds Anglais) de longueur, et conserveront ce pavillon en tête de mât aussi longtemps qu'ils resteront dans les ports ou en dedans des dites limites. Ce pavillon devra être amené dès que les bateaux seront en dehors de ces limites.

Ces bateaux devront sortir des limites dès que les circonstances exceptionnelles qui auront motivé leur entrée le leur permettront.

ARTICLE XXXVI.

Les commandants des bâtiments croiseurs de chacun des deux pays, ainsi que tous officiers ou autres agents préposés à la police des pêches, apprécieront les causes de toutes

tions of the regulations with regard to the fishery limits; and when they shall be satisfied of the fact of the infraction, they may detain the boats of the offenders, or cause them to be detained, and may take them, or cause them to be taken, into port, where, upon clear proof of the offence, such boats may be condemned by the competent Court or magistrate to a fine not exceeding ten pounds (two hundred and fifty francs). In default of payment, such boats may be detained for a period not exceeding three months.

In case of repetition of the offence the fine may be doubled.

infractions aux règles établies pour les limites de pêche; et, lorsqu'ils seront convaincus du fait de ces infractions, ils arrêteront ou feront arrêter les bateaux des délinquants, et les conduiront ou les feront conduire dans un port, où, sur des preuves évidentes de transgression, les dits bateaux pourront être condamnés par le tribunal ou les magistrats compétents au paiement d'une amende qui ne dépassera pas deux cent cinquante francs (dix livres sterling). A défaut de paiement de l'amende, ces bateaux pourront être retenus pendant un laps de temps qui n'excédera pas trois mois.

En cas de récidive, l'amende pourra être doublée.

ARTICLE XXXVII.

The proceedings and trial in cases of infraction of the provisions of the present Convention shall take place as speedily and as summarily as the laws in force will permit.

ARTICLE XXXVII.

La procédure et le jugement des contraventions aux dispositions de la présente Convention auront toujours lieu par urgence et aussi sommairement que les lois en vigueur le permettront.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.

The terms "British Islands" and "United Kingdom," employed in this Convention, shall include the Islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, and Man, with their dependencies.

ARTICLE XXXVIII.

Les termes "Iles Britanniques" et "Royaume Uni," employés dans cette Convention, comprennent les Iles de Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, l'Ile de Man, et leurs dépendances.

ARTICLE XXXIX.

Her Britannic Majesty engages to recommend to Parliament to pass an Act to enable her to carry into execution such of the arrangements contained in the present Convention as require legislative sanction. When such an Act shall have been passed, the Convention shall come into operation from and after a day to be then fixed upon by the two High Contracting Parties. Due notice shall be given in each country, by the Government of that country, of the day which may be so fixed upon.

ARTICLE XXXIX.

Sa Majesté Britannique s'engage à proposer au Parlement d'adopter un Acte lui donnant les pouvoirs nécessaires pour mettre à exécution celles des clauses contenues dans la présente Convention qui ont besoin de l'approbation législative.

Après que cet Acte aura été adopté par le Parlement, la Convention entrera en vigueur à partir du jour qui sera fixé par les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes. Il sera, dans chacun des deux pays, donné officiellement avis, par le Gouvernement, du jour qui aura été arrêté.

ARTICLE XL.

The Convention shall continue in force for ten years from the day on which it may come into operation; and if neither party shall, twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years, give notice of its intention to terminate its operation, the Convention shall continue in force one year longer, and so on from year to year, until the expiration of one year's notice from either party for its termination.

ARTICLE XL.

La présente Convention restera en vigueur pendant dix années à partir du jour de la mise en vigueur, et, dans le cas où aucune des Hautes Parties Contractantes n'aurait notifié, douze mois avant l'expiration de la dite période de dix années, son intention d'en faire cesser les effets, elle continuera à rester en vigueur une année, et ainsi de suite d'année en année jusqu'à l'expiration d'une année à partir du jour où l'une ou l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes l'aura dénoncée.

The High Contracting Parties, however, reserve to themselves the power to make, by mutual consent, any modification in the Convention which experience shall have shown to be desirable, provided it is not inconsistent with the principles on which it is based.

Les Hautes Parties Contractantes se réservent cependant la faculté d'apporter à la Convention, d'un commun accord, toute modification dont l'expérience aurait démontré l'utilité, et qui ne serait pas incompatible avec l'esprit et les principes qui en sont la base.

ARTICLE XLI.

The Convention concluded between the High Contracting Parties on the 2nd of August, 1839, and the Regulations of the 23rd of June, 1843, shall continue in force until the day when, as provided in Article XXXIX, the present Convention shall come into operation, and shall then altogether cease and determine.

ARTICLE XLI.

La Convention conclue entre les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes le 2 Août, 1839, et le Réglement du 23 Juin, 1843, resteront en vigueur jusqu'au jour où, ainsi qu'il est dit à l'Article XXXIX, le présent arrangement deviendra exécutoire; ils cesseront à ce moment d'être appliqués.

ARTICLE XLII.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged as soon as possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Paris, the 11th of November, in the year of our Lord 1867.

ARTICLE XLII.

La présente Convention sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées aussitôt que faire se pourra.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signée, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Paris, le 11 Novembre, de l'an de Grace 1867.

(L.S.) LYONS.
(L.S.) MOUSTIER.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

It is agreed that Article XXXI of the Convention signed this day shall not come into operation until the two Contracting Parties shall have come to a further understanding on the subject. Due notice shall be given of the day that may be fixed upon for its coming into operation.

The present Additional Article shall have the same force and validity as if it were inserted, word for word, in the Convention signed this day. It shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at the same time as those of the Convention.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Paris, the 11th of November, in the year of our Lord 1867.

ARTICLE ADDITIONNEL.

Il est entendu que l'Article XXXI de la Convention signée en date de ce jour ne recevra son exécution qu'après un accord ultérieur des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes. Il sera donné connaissance du jour qui pourra être fixé pour son exécution.

Le présent Article Additionnel aura la même force que s'il était inséré, mot pour mot, dans la Convention signée en date de ce jour. Il sera ratifié, et les ratifications seront échangées en même temps que celles de la Convention.

En foi de quoi, les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé, et y ont apposé le cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Paris, le 11 Novembre, de l'an de Grace 1867.

(L.S.) LYONS.
(L.S.) MOUSTIER.

Declaration annexed to the Convention of November 11, 1867.

The fishermen of each country shall not be allowed to land or discharge their fish in the other country except at places where there is a Custom-house, and during office hours.

Immediately upon their arrival, and in all cases before they commence the discharge of their cargo, they shall present their muster-roll, or licence, or official paper, to the proper officer of Customs, and shall pass an entry at the Custom-house, stating, as nearly as possible, the quantity of fish which they have on board.

If the master of a fishing boat cannot write, the officer of Customs shall fill up for him the form required, and the master shall affix his mark thereto.

The Custom-house officers shall have power to board and search the fishing boats of the other country in the manner directed by the Customs laws.

During their stay in the ports of the other country, the fishermen of either country shall, if required to do so by the Customs authorities, deposit in a warehouse or in the Custom-house, until their departure, all stores subject to duty, which shall not be necessary for their daily consumption. No charge shall be made for such warehousing.

The ports enumerated in the subjoined list, where there is a Custom-house establishment, are those that shall be open in each country to the fishermen of the other country. In case the Customs establishment at any of those ports should be abolished, notice thereof shall be given to the Government of the other country.

Déclaration annexée à la Convention du 11 *Novembre*, 1867.

Les pêcheurs de chacun des deux pays ne pourront débarquer leur poisson dans l'autre pays, que sur les points où existe un bureau de douane et pendant les heures règlementaires.

Dès leur arrivée et, dans tous les cas, avant de commencer leur déchargement, ils seront tenus de présenter leur rôle ou congé à l'agent des Douanes, et de déclarer au bureau la quantité approximative de poisson qu'ils ont à bord.

Lorsque le patron ne saura pas écrire, l'agent des douanes libellera lui-même la déclaration, sur laquelle le patron apposera sa croix.

Les employés des Douanes auront la faculté d'effectuer à bord des bateaux les visites prescrites par les règlements de Douane.

Pendant leur séjour dans les ports de l'autre pays, les pêcheurs de l'un des deux pays devront, s'ils en sont requis par la Douane, déposer à l'entrepôt ou au bureau, jusqu'à leur départ, les provisions de bord sujettes à des droits d'entrée, et qui ne seraient pas nécessaires à la consommation journalière. Ce dépôt aura lieu sans frais.

La nomenclature des bureaux de Douane ouverts dans chacun des deux pays aux pêcheurs de l'autre pays, est contenue dans les tableaux ci-annexés.

Dans le cas où quelque bureau serait supprimé, avis en serait donné au Gouvernement de l'autre pays.

List of the Ports in the United Kingdom open for the Importation of Fish by French Fishing-boats.

Liste des Ports du Royaume Uni ouverts à l'Importation du Poisson par Bateaux Pêcheurs Français.

In England. En Angleterre.

Bristol.	Liverpool.	Ramsgate.
Cardiff.	London.	Shields.
Dover, C.	Lowestoft.	Shoreham, C.
Folkestone, C.	Middlesborough.	Southampton, C.
Falmouth, C.	Newcastle.	Sunderland.
Grimsby.	Newhaven, C.	Swansea.
Hartlepool.	Newport.	Weymouth, C.
Harwich.	Portsmouth, C.	Whitby.
Hull.	Plymouth, C.	Yarmouth.

In Scotland. En Ecosse.

Aberdeen.	Greenock.	Wick.
Glasgow.	Leith.	

In Ireland. En Irlande.

Belfast.	Dublin.	Waterford.
Cork.	Galway.	

In the Channel Islands. Iles de la Manche.

Jersey, C.	Guernsey, C.

The ports in the Channel are marked with a C.
Les ports de la Manche sont marqués C.

List of the Ports of the French Empire open for the Importation of Fish by British Fishing-boats.

Liste des Ports de l'Empire Français ouverts à l'Importation du Poisson par Bateaux Pêcheurs Anglais.

Directions.		Directions.	
Dunkerque	Gravelines.	Brest—*suite.*	Pont l'Abbé.
	Dunkerque.		Audierne.
			Douarnenez.
Boulogne	Hourdel.		Morgat.
	St. Valéry-sur-Somme.		Camaret.
	Crotoy.		Port Launay.
	Abbeville.		Le Faon.
	Berck (plage maritime).		Landerneau.
	Etaples.		Brest.
	Boulogne.		Le Conquet.
	Calais.		Labrevrach.
			Roscoff.
Le Havre	Harfleur.		Morlaix.
	Le Havre.		
	Fécamp.	Vannes	Redon.
	St. Valéry-en-Caux.		La Roche-Bernard.
	Dieppe.		Tréhiguier.
	Tréport.		Billiers.
	Eu.		Pénerf.
			Ambon.
Rouen	Rouen.		Vannes.
	Croisset.		Belle-Croix.
	Duclair.		Sarzeau.
	Caudebec.		Suscinio.
			Saint Armel.
Caen	Isigny.		Noyalo.
	Port-en-Bessin.		Quatre-vents.
	Courceulles.		Ile d'Ars (Ile du Morbihan).
	Caen.		Port Novalo.
	Ouistreham.		Larmorbaden.
	Trouville.		Locmariaquer.
	Honfleur.		Auray.
	Pont-Audemer.		Rochdu.
			La Trinité.
Saint Lô	Granville.		Carnac.
	Regneville.		Porthaliguen.
	Portbail (Havre).		Palais (Ile).
	Dielette.		Etel.
	Carentan.		Port Louis.
	Cherbourg.		Hennebon.
	Barfleur.		Lorient.
	Saint Vaast.		Kernevel.
	Omonville.		Groix (Ile).
Saint Brieuc	Lannion.	Nantes	Noirmoutiers.
	Perros.		St. Gilles.
	Tréguier.		Ile d'Yeu.
	Lézardrieux.		La Barre-de-Mont (port sur canal).
	Pontrieux.		
	Paimpol.		Beauvoir (idem.)
	Portrieux.		Boin (idem.)
	Binic.		Bourgneuf.
	Le Légué.		Pornic.
	Dahonet.		Paimbœuf.
	Erquy.		Saint Nazaire.
	Le Guildo.		Nantes.
	Plouer.		Chantenay.
	Dinan.		La Basse-Indre.
	Saint Suliac.		Port Nichet.
	Saint Servan.		Pouliguen.
	Saint Malo.		Le Croisic.
	La Houlle.		La Turballe.
	Le Vivier.		Le Rosais.
Brest	Quimperlé.	La Rochelle	La Tremblade.
	Douélanc.		Mornac.
	Pontaven.		L'Eguille.
	Concarneau.		Le Gua.
	Quimper.		Nieulle (port sur canal).

Directions.		Directions.	
La Rochelle—*suite.*	Lusac (port sur canal)	La Rochelle—*suite.*	L'Aiguillon.
	Marennes (idem.)		Les Sables.
	Le Chapus.		Saint-Martin de Brem.
	Le Château (Ile d'Oléron).		
	St.-Pierre (idem.)	Bordeaux . ..	La Teste.
	St.-Georges (idem.)		Gujan.
	St.-Denis (idem.)		Certes.
	Bronage (port sur canal).		Le Verdon.
	Moëze.		La Fosse (port sur canal).
	Charente.		Pauillac.
	Rochefort.		Bordeaux.
	Fouran.		Libourne.
	Ile d'Aix (Ile).		Plaigne.
	La Rochelle.		Bourg.
	Lauzières.		Blaye.
	Marans.		Montagne.
	La Flotte (Ile de Ré).		Les Meschers.
	St. Martin (idem.)		Royan.
	Loix (idem.)		
	Ars (idem.)	Bayonne	Saint Jean de Luz.
	Luçon (port sur canal).		Bayonne.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed these Annexes to the Convention concluded this day, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

At Paris, the 11th November, 1867.

(L.S.) LYONS.

(L.S.) MOUSTIER.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé ces Annexes à la Convention conclue en date de ce jour, et les ont revêtues du cachet de leurs armes.

A Paris, le 11 Novembre, 1867.

FRANCE.

CONVENTION between Her Majesty and the Emperor of the French, relative to Fisheries in the Seas between Great Britain and France.

With a Chart thereto annexed.

Signed at Paris, November 11, 1867.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*]

LONDON:
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DECLARATION

EXCHANGED BETWEEN THE

BRITISH AND ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS

RELATIVE TO

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Signed at Florence, November 26, 1867.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

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DECLARATION exchanged between the British and Italian Governments, relative to Joint Stock Companies.

Signed at Florence, November 26, 1867.

Declaration.

THE Government of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy, with a view to the reciprocal regulation in the two countries of the position of Joint Stock Companies, and other commercial, industrial, and financial Associations, have respectively authorized Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to His Majesty the King of Italy, and His Excellency Count Louis Frederick Menabrea, President of the Council, and Minister Secretary of State of His Majesty the King of Italy for the Department of Foreign Affairs, to agree:

That Joint Stock Companies and other associations, commercial, industrial, and financial, constituted and authorized in conformity with the laws in force in either of the two countries, may freely exercise in the dominions of the other all their rights, including that of appearing before tribunals, whether for the purpose of bringing an action, or for defending the same, in conformity however with the laws and customs in force in the said countries.

That these dispositions shall be applicable as well to Companies and Associations constituted and authorized previously to the signature of this present Declaration, as to those which may subsequently be so constituted and authorized.

That the present Declaration, made without limit as to duration, may be revoked by either party giving a year's previous notice, and that such modifications may, by common consent, be introduced into it, which experience may show to be desirable.

Done at Florence, in duplicate, the 26th November, 1867.

(L.S.) A. B. PAGET.
(L.S.) L. F. MENABREA.

Dichiarazione.

IL Governo di Sua Maestà la Regina del Regno Unito della Gran Bretagna e d'Irlanda, ed il Governo di Sua Maestà il Re d'Italia, allo scopo di regolare reciprocamente nei due Stati la condizione delle Società Anonime, ed altre Associazioni commerciali, industriali, e finanziarie, hanno rispettivamente autorizzato Sir Augustus Berkeley Paget, Inviato Straordinario e Ministro Plenipotenziario di Sua Maestà Britannica presso Sua Maestà il Re d'Italia, e Sua Eccellenza il Conte Luigi Federico Menabrea, Presidente del Consiglio, e Ministro Segretario di Stato per gli Affari Esteri di Sua Maestà il Re d'Italia, a convenire:

Che le Società per azioni (anonime) ed altre Società, commerciali, industriali, e finanziarie, costituite ed autorizzate secondo le norme prescritte dalla legislazione di uno dei due paesi, potranno liberamente far valere negli Stati dell'altro tutti i loro diritti, compreso quello di stare in giudizio, sia per intentare azioni, sia per difendersi da quelle che venissero loro intentate, conformandosi però sempre alle leggi e consuetudini in vigore negli Stati medesimi.

Che queste disposizioni dovranno essere applicate tanto alle Società ed Associazioni costituite ed autorizzate anteriormente alla firma della presente Dichiarazione, quanto a quelle che lo fossero in seguito.

Che la presente Dichiarazione, fatta senza limite di durata, potrà venire rivocata da ambe le parti mediante la denuncia fattane un anno prima, e che vi si potranno introdurre di comune accordo quelle modificazioni che la esperienza dimostrasse opportune.

Fatto a Firenze, in doppio originale, il 26 Novembre, 1867.

(L.S.) A. B. PAGET.
(L.S.) L. F. MENABREA.

Declaration exchanged between the British and Italian Governments relative to Joint Stock Companies.

Signed at Florence, November 26, 1867.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* ½*d.*]

LONDON:
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PAPERS

RELATING TO THE

WITHDRAWAL

OF THE

BRITISH MISSION FROM MEXICO:

1867-68.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
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Papers relating to the Withdrawal of the British Mission from Mexico: 1867—68.

No. 1.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord, *Mexico, August* 28, 1867.

JUST as the post is departing, I have received the despatch from Her Majesty's Consul which I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, as well as another despatch from Mr. Glennie of the 26th instant, both relating to the determination of the Mexican Government no longer to recognize Mr. Glennie as Her Majesty's Consul in this capital; the determination, as your Lordship will perceive, having been arrived at solely on account of the general policy adopted by them with regard to the Agents of all such Powers as recognized the late Empire, and nowise in consequence of any official act of Mr. Consul Glennie.

I have also the honour to inclose herewith translation of the letter which Mr. Consul Glennie considered it his duty to address to Señor Lerdo de Tejada, Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon becoming informed of his non-recognition in his official character by the Mexican Government.

In order to guard against any misapprehension on the part of Her Majesty's Consular officers in this country, and to prevent the possibility of their involving themselves in any complications with the Republican authorities, I shall immediately address a circular despatch to them, instructing them to refrain from performing any official act, and to remove their flag and coat of arms from their houses.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Consul Glennie to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, August* 27, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th instant relative to the non-recognition by the Mexican Government of my Consular appointment in this capital, I have now the honour to state to you that, as it appeared to me of the utmost importance I should be made acquainted officially with my real position in respect to a rather important case of presumptive intestacy, I deemed it expedient not only to write to Señor Lerdo de Tejada on the subject, but to endeavour, if possible, to obtain a personal interview with him, with the view of learning whether the determination of the Government, as conveyed in his despatch to the Judge, was the result of any bad feeling towards me personally, or of anything objectionable in my mode of proceeding in connection with the above-mentioned intestacy; and it affords me much pleasure to be able to assure you that both the inquiry of the Judge as to my official representation, and Señor Lerdo's reply thereto embraced solely the general policy laid down by the Government to the exclusion of all personal feelings.

Señor Lerdo stated to me very clearly that no person who may have held a Consular

appointment during the Imperial rule would be recognized as Consul by the actual Government; and he would have returned an immediate answer in that sense to my communication but for another circumstance to which I beg leave to allude, as a further proof of the absence of any personal feeling in the matter.

This morning the parties to a marriage, of which notice to the Consulate was given twenty-one days ago, came to my office for the solemnization of their marriage. I was under the necessity of informing them of my doubts as to whether, under the peculiar circumstances of the moment, I should be justified in proceeding with their marriage, and bid them return in a few hours to learn my definite resolution on the subject.

On referring this case to Señor Lerdo de Tajada, he immediately remarked that inasmuch as it was an affair already commenced, and considering the nature of the case, far from throwing any impediment in the way, he would facilitate the matter by deferring for one day his answer to my despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. GLENNIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Consul Glennie to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, August* 26, 1867.

I REGRET very much to have to inform you that I have just seen in the "autos" or judicial proceedings in connection with the supposed intestacy of the deceased British subject Alexander Lafontaine, a despatch signed by Señor D. Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, informing the Judge before whom the said presumptive intestacy has been brought that the Mexican Government do not recognize me as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Mexico.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. GLENNIE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Consul Glennie to Señor Lerdo.

(Translation.)

BY virtue of the appointment which was sent to me on the 2nd of November, 1853, and upon which the usual exequatur was conceded on the 4th of February, 1854, I have exercised during a long period the functions of Consul of Her Britannic Majesty in this country.

With the usual formalities, my son, Charles Frederick Glennie, exercised the same functions in my name, and, in that character, was cited by the tribunals of the country, in order to take the proper measures with respect to the intestate property of the British subject, Mr. Alexander Lafontaine.

Upon resuming my duties I was cited for proceedings in the same business by the Civil Judge No. 6, and I read, for the first time in those documents, that the President of the Republic had been pleased to determine that I should not be recognized in them in the character with which Her Britannic Majesty's Government had invested me.

In order to save my responsibility by fulfilling my duty in protecting the interests of my deceased or absent countrymen in the terms ordained by the laws of the Republic, I should feel obliged by your informing me in answer, who is the person that is to be considered in a position to exercise those duties.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. GLENNIE.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 30, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting the refusal of the existing Government of Mexico to recognize Mr. Glennie as Her Majesty's Consul in that city; and I have to state to you in reply that I approve the step which you proposed

to take in addressing a Circular Instruction to Her Majesty's Consular Officers in Mexico instructing them to refrain from exercising any official functions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 3.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 12.)

My Lord, *Mexico, September 3, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo, in which I had the honour of informing your Lordship of the determination of the Mexican Government not to recognize Her Majesty's Consuls in the Republic, I have the honour now to inclose translation of Señor Lerdo de Tejada's note to Mr. Glennie, informing him officially of the above determination.

I may state, with respect to this subject, that the exequatur held by Mr. Glennie was issued to him by the Republican Government.

I have also the honour to inclose, herewith, copies of my reply to Mr. Glennie's despatch, and of the Circular which I considered it my duty to address to Her Majesty's Consuls in Mexico in consequence of the determination of the Mexican Government above referred to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Señor Lerdo to Consul Glennie.

(Translation.) *Department for Foreign Affairs, Mexico,*
Sir, *August 30, 1867.*

IN consequence of a judicial proceeding relating to the intestate property of a British subject, you were pleased to address to me your communication of the 27th instant, as to whether the Government of the Republic had determined that you should not be recognized in your character as Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

In truth, according to the information possessed by this Department, the Ministry of Justice communicated to the Judge who takes cognizance of the case in question, that you could not act in it in the said character.

This determination reposes on the basis that the Government of the Republic consider that they cannot recognize the official character of the Agents of such Governments as placed themselves in a state of hostility towards the Government of the Republic or had disowned the Government thereof, by recognizing the so-called Government which was sought to be established in Mexico by the foreign intervention, or permit Consular duties to be exercised by such persons.

I am, &c.
(Signed) S. LERDO DE TEJADA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Mr. Middleton to Consul Glennie.

Sir, *Mexico, September 2, 1867.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 26th and 27th ultimo, copies of which I remitted by last mail to Her Majesty's Government, and have also to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of this day's date, which, together with its inclosure, I shall take the first opportunity of remitting to them also.

It was with feelings of deep regret that I learnt from you the determination of the Mexican Government referred to in the above-mentioned communications. I doubt not, however, but what your active solicitude in favour of everything relating to British interests will remain unrelaxed; and confidently hope that from the great personal respect in which you are held, as well by all classes of the natives of this country as by the British community, and from the attention which you are thereby enabled to

command, the withdrawal of your professional support from Her Majesty's subjects may prove a less serious misfortune to them than might have been otherwise apprehended.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Mexico by Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, September* 2, 1867

I REGRET to have to apprize you, for your information, as well as for that of such of Her Majesty's Consular officers as may be under your control, that the Mexican Government have determined not to recognize any Agents of Her Majesty's Government in this country in their official capacity.

I have consequently to instruct you to refrain from performing any official act, as well as to remove your flag, or any other insignia denoting your official character, from your place of residence, as also to direct any of Her Majesty's Consular Officers within your Consular district to do likewise.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

No. 4.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 25, 1867.

THE decision of the Mexican Government, so formally made known, as stated in your despatch of the 28th of August, to Mr. Consul Glennie, not to hold official communication with the Agents of Powers which recognized the late Imperial Government, renders it no longer compatible with the dignity of Her Majesty's Government to keep up in Mexico even the semblance of a Diplomatic Mission.

Looking to the number of British subjects, and the amount of British property in Mexico, Her Majesty's Government would not have been indisposed to allow Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to remain in Mexico for a time (even though he might not be in official relation with the existing Government), in the hope that he might indirectly be a protection to his countrymen during the state of transition through which the affairs of the Republic are passing.

But as the Mexican Government have formally announced their determination to hold no intercourse with Governments which acknowledged the *de facto* Government that preceded them, and have thereby invested their decision with the character of retaliation for the policy which those Governments pursued when the Imperial Government was established in Mexico, no other alternative remains for Her Majesty's Government than to acquiesce, and withdraw Her Majesty's Mission altogether from the country.

You will therefore, on the receipt of this despatch, apply for passports for the several members of the Mission, and for the necessary escort to enable you to reach Vera Cruz in safety, where you will embark either in the packet or in any ship of war which may be waiting to receive you, and to convey you to any port in the West Indies or elsewhere, from whence you may continue your voyage to England.

You will bring away with you the archives, cyphers, and any public property belonging to the Mission; and you will use your discretion as to bringing away the whole or any portion of the archives of Her Majesty's Consulate in Mexico.

In applying for your passports, you will state that you have been ordered to do so, in consequence of the decision of the Mexican Government to hold no intercourse with the Agents of Powers who recognized the Government of the Emperor Maximilian; but you are desired, on your departure, formally to place under the protection of the Mexican Government the persons and properties of British subjects, and to call upon the Mexican Government, in fulfilment of the duty for which all States are responsible, to secure from injury at the hands of the public authorities all British subjects residing in or passing through the country, and to extend to them, as long as they are within the country, and to their properties, full justice in all their dealings.

With regard to the Consuls, I am not aware whether any such communication as has been made to Mr. Glennie has been made generally to all. You will judge whether,

after what has passed, Mr. Glennie can continue, with a due regard for his persona security, to reside in Mexico, and you will allow him to remain, or withdraw with you, as may seem most advisable.

But as regards the Consuls at other places, I do not think it desirable that they should quit the country, unless circumstances should make it absolutely necessary for them to do so. You will enjoin them, however, to refrain from any attempt to force official communications with the authorities; but to confine themselves, if they should apply to them, to verbal representations in behalf of any British interests that may be placed in jeopardy. They should appeal, not so much to Treaties as to the goodwill of the authorities, who it may be hoped will be disposed to yield to friendly representation what they would withhold from formal demands.

On your departure you will recommend British subjects to conduct themselves peaceably towards the Government and authorities, to take no part in local politics, and to pronounce no opinion on events passing around them, to abstain from giving just cause of offence, and to claim no other treatment than what is enjoyed by natives. Her Majesty's Consuls, after your departure, will understand that their own conduct and the advice that they may give their countrymen must be regulated by these principles; but it will, nevertheless, be right in any case where wrong or injury is done to British subjects, to place on record in some form or other, not in the shape of protest or any ostentatious address to local authorities, the most complete and dispassionate evidence of the character and extent of injury done, so that if a better state of things should arise in Mexico, there may be no doubt or difficulty as to the nature of any complaint which may be preferred, and as to the extent of redress which may reasonably be demanded.

Her Majesty's Government earnestly hope that such a better state of things may not be long delayed. They have no wish to be on any other terms than those of friendship with Mexico, under whatever form the Government may be administered; both countries have many valuable interests in common, and it is with no small concern that Her Majesty's Government find themselves compelled, by the act of the Government of Mexico, to withdraw even for a time the British Mission from that country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 5.

Mr. Egerton to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 25, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to request that you will submit, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that in view of the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Mission from Mexico, his Lordship is desirous that the Commander-in-chief on the West India station may be directed, if possible, to send a ship of war to Vera Cruz to receive on board and convey to some port in the West Indies, or elsewhere, from whence they can reach Europe, Mr. Middleton, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, and the other Members of Her Majesty's Mission.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 6.

Mr. Egerton to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 25, 1867.

WITH reference to my letter of this day's date, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copy of an instruction which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Mexico,* with the suggestion that it should be communicated confidentially to the Commander-in-chief on the West Indian station, and I am also to add that Lord Stanley thinks it desirable, as far as possible, to have Vera Cruz visited from time to time by a ship of war, to afford countenance to British subjects.

The Commander-in-chief must regulate his conduct according to the principles laid

* No. 4.

down in the instructions to Mr. Middleton, which only apply after the departure of Her Majesty's Mission from Vera Cruz.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 7.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Egerton.—(*Received October* 28.)

Sir, *Admiralty, October* 26, 1867.

IN reply to your letter of the 25th instant I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of Lord Stanley, that directions will be sent by the mail of the 1st November to the Senior Officer of Her Majesty's ships at Jamaica, to dispatch a ship of war to Vera Cruz to bring away Her Majesty's Mission from Mexico.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 8.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 23.)

My Lord, *Mexico, November* 5, 1867.

AS a specimen of the tone of defiance so very generally adopted by the Press of this Republic towards European nations, I have the honour to transmit herewith, in translation, an article which acquires additional significance from having appeared in the "Official Gazette."

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Extract from the "Official Gazette."

(Translation.)

THE RECOGNITION OF MEXICO.—It is rumoured by foreign papers and letters that England will not delay in recognizing Mexico, and this is intelligible, not only because that nation has an interest in establishing intercourse with us, but because it is her policy to treat with Governments *de facto*, without meddling with investigations respecting the internal affairs of each country.

The recognition by Italy has also been talked of, and the report bears the appearance of truth, inasmuch as up to the present moment, in lieu of hostile demonstrations, we have received proofs only of sympathy from that nation, which, although established under a régime distinct from ours, possesses in its present situation some analogy with the unfortunate events which we have just experienced. The special congratulations which a considerable number of the working class of Italy have addressed to our President show us that we are esteemed in that distant country; and duly weighing this significative act in the balance of public opinion, we incline to believe that a Representative will shortly be sent by the "Gallant King," as his countrymen style the Monarch who by so many efforts has gone on overcoming the difficulties which opposed the unity of that fine Peninsula, once the centre of enlightenment, and which is still the Mother of the Fine Arts.

France and Spain, vexed with us because we have known how to defend our rights, seem to persist in holding aloof, and wish for the present to let us live on our own account, as though by that there were not gains and advantages which, thank God, we are enjoying, and as though they somewhat injured us by a proceeding which procures for us rest and satisfaction. Certainly, in the normal state of reciprocal relations established and sanctioned by nations, it suits all parties to cement on sure bases the friendship of Governments; nevertheless, although it may appear strange, the most advantageous thing for Mexico is, that she be left in tranquillity for some time by those who have craftily come to offer her their good will with the deliberate view of interfering in our internal affairs, and founding unjust claims on the slightest pretext.

The disgust produced in Europe by the final triumph of the Mexican arms is a thing that surprises nobody, since it was natural that that feeling should be aroused, after the rude blow which we have given to crowned heads; but the rancour they bear us will not last long, and there will be no resource for our voluntary enemies but to lay aside their delicate susceptibility, and bow down before the express recognition of the heroism with which the children of democracy have known how to vindicate their outraged honour before the whole world.

The calumny, the gross insults, and the war without quarter they have waged against us, will be cast into complete oblivion; and contemporary history will do us justice, as has been done us by those liberal and feeling men who have followed the march of the events which have taken place in this part of the world during the last years; and experience will prove that we have not been the enemies of foreigners, but that foreigners in general have taken a pleasure in exaggerating our incomprehensible ingratitude, and have endeavoured in every way to ruin and destroy the nation we have inherited from our fathers, and which we shall know how to preserve, cost what it may.

Whether this or that Government recognizes us or not is of little consequence, provided the sister Republics of our continent profess good feelings towards us, and if it be everywhere seen that our people fulfil their duty, and sacrifice everything to preserve their honour and their institutions.

No. 9.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December 9, 1867.*

THE formal opening of the Mexican Congress took place yesterday, when the President of the Republic resigned into the hands of the National Assembly the full powers with which they had invested him on the breaking out of hostilities with France.

I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship copies of Señor Juarez' speech on this occasion, and of the reply of Señor Montes, the President of the Chamber, and to subjoin translations of those paragraphs which have special reference to the foreign relations of the Republic, time not permitting me to furnish your Lordship with complete translations.

Your Lordship will perceive that not only President Juarez but also Señor Montes (a gentleman who has always been distinguished for the extreme moderation of his political views, and who, it is thought by many, would have proved a formidable rival to President Juarez as candidate for the Presidency had he but returned to the country in time for the elections) distinctly assert that the Treaties of the Republic with European Powers have been annulled by the fact of those Powers recognizing the late *de facto* Government in Mexico.

This is not the first time that this assertion has been publicly made, Señor Montes having already on several occasions expressed the same opinion in the preparatory meetings of the Congress; and the article, translation of which I have the honour to inclose, extracted from the "Siglio XIX," a paper enjoying a considerable reputation in the capital, makes use of the same argument to deduce conclusions as to the probable effect which the cessation of relations will have in Europe.

President Juarez, as your Lordship will perceive, congratulates himself and the Government on having carefully avoided giving just offence to foreign Governments, and looks forward to a renewal of relations with them at some future period on the basis of Treaties more advantageous than the last to Mexican interests, and in the meantime he assures the foreign residents in the Republic that they will receive from the laws and authorities of Mexico equal protection with the native Mexican citizens.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Extract from the Speech of Señor Juarez on the Opening of Congress.

(Translation.)

IN consequence of the intervention, our relations with the European Powers have been severed.

Three of those Powers, by the Convention of London, placed themselves in a state of war with the Republic. Subsequently, France continued the task of intervention alone; but afterwards the so-called Government, supported by her, was recognized by the other European Governments who had maintained relations with the Republic, which they then disowned, abandoning the condition of neutrality. In this manner these Governments broke their Treaties with the Republic, and their relations with us have been and still are severed.

The conduct of the Government of the Republic had to be regulated with a view to the conduct of the above-mentioned Governments; while not asking anything from them, it has taken care that nothing should be done which could be considered motive for offence; and it will oppose no difficulty to the possibility of concluding new Treaties when circumstances permit on conditions which shall be equitable and suitable, especially in reference to the interests of trade.

The Government has also taken care that the subjects of those nations who are resident in the Republic shall receive the protection of the laws and public authorities. The efficacy of that protection has been sufficient to avert all motives for complaint. It has been practically demonstrated that in consequence of the enlightenment of our nation and the principles of our liberal institutions, foreigners resident in the Republic are considered without any necessity for the special protection of Treaties as on an equal footing with Mexicans, and enjoy the rights and guarantees sanctioned by the laws.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Extract from the Speech of Señor Montes.

(Translation.)

MEXICO refuses neither her friendship nor her commerce to any country in the world; but Mexico will solicit diplomatic relations from no nation. She has proved to the world that she is able to defend her sovereign rights against the most powerful enemy; and she is convinced that she does not need any foreign Government's recognition of her existence as an independent nation.

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

Extract from the "Siglio XIX."

(Translation.)

TREATIES.—It is indubitable that the public Treaties which had been concluded between Mexico and European nations ceased to exist from the moment that, disowning the National Government of the Republic, the latter recognized the usurping one of the Archduke Maximilian. Mexico, then, is free from engagements, and her sovereignty is at full liberty to re-establish or not those Treaties in such manner as may be most adequate and suitable.

We do not think it possible, but if from the time of the restoration of the National Government in this capital, the ports of our seas had been closed to the importation of merchandise proceeding from countries which had broken the old Treaties concluded with the Republic, we should be well satisfied, since, necessities having been created and no means of complying with them by means of articles from abroad existing, national industry would in the meantime be in process of formation, and our markets would soon be supplied with our own productions, which in the course of time would also become articles of exportation.

Were we to solicit the re-establishment of international relations, we should appear to be degrading ourselves, because it is a social and individual law, that the party furnishing the motive for a rupture of friendly relations ought to solicit reconciliation.

In the times we are traversing it is very difficult, nay, almost impossible, for nations to remain without reciprocal relations agreed on in written stipulations; as it is a generally recognized principle that conjectures or suppositions never establish perfect rights between two States.

So that Mexico will necessarily have to re-establish the Treaties which have ceased to exist, reviving them by means of new Conventions. But who ought to seek for the re-establishment of the Treaties—Mexico, or the nations who broke them? Ought these Treaties to be re-established on their former footing, or ought they to be entirely renewed? These are the two questions which insensibly present themselves in writing on the subject of public Treaties.

Mexico, as much on account of her position as her just pride, is not in a position to solicit for the making of new Treaties. As our soil enjoys the productions of all climates, it is only for the sake of ease and luxury that we require the manufactures of Europe. Our principal exportation is money, and this will never fail to be wanted and form the chief incentive of mankind.

Besides these circumstances, motives of interest place us in the favourable position of being solicited and required. In fact, the Mexican Republic is for Europe a most ample market, where eight or nine millions of inhabitants consume her manufactures or fabrics. What would take place if, through the want of Treaties of Commerce, Mexico were not to permit the importation of these articles crammed on board of vessels coming from the countries in question? That in England, France, and Germany and other places, a frightful monetary crisis would ensue very difficult to allay, because it would be impossible to find in all the world a new market to be compared with the one lost. The manufactures of the year would accumulate in the factories; the money of the Republic would be wanting; industrial establishments would be closed, and the clamour of workmen would reach thrones themselves; and thus the monetary crisis would soon become a political crisis.

On the other hand, the European Colony in this country is a numerous one, and each of the individuals who form it ought to be the object of the care of the Government of which he is the subject.

And for the very reason that conjectures and suppositions never establish perfect rights between nations, it will be the people of Europe who will solicit the renewal of the Treaties, for the purpose of fixing the basis of trade in that their countrymen may possess some exact conception of their rights and obligations while resident in foreign countries. We are not in a like position, the Mexican Colony in Europe is a nullity: it is composed either of persons in easy circumstances, who are travelling in those countries, or of banished men who in times of revolution seek a refuge in the Old World. These individuals are so few in number, as not to to require that our Government should on their account take the initiative in opening new diplomatic Conventions. Consequently the European States are the parties who are interested in soliciting the renewal or re-establishment of the broken Treaties.

But these Treaties must be very different from the former ones, which were vitiated by errors and burdensome concessions. The Treaties to be concluded will be advantageous for ourselves and just towards foreigners who will lose those privileges which our inexperience conceded to them, and which gave them a great superiority over ourselves. It would be impossible to enter into details upon a subject which belongs to the regions of the future; but as sooner or later it will pass into those of the present, we trust that the Government will uphold the honour of the nation in its Treaties, above all abolishing that principle of reciprocity stipulated for in all Conventions, and which has become only a sarcasm and stinging irony; for instance, what equality of trade can exist between Mexico and Great Britain? In such a case that reciprocity which formerly so flattered our diplomatists is impossible, and we have seen that it is an arm which can turn its edge and its point against the unwary.

(Signed) ANTONIO G. PEREZ.

No. 10.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 15, 1868.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December* 9, 1867.

OWING to the English packet not having been allowed to communicate with the shore upon her first arrival at Vera Cruz, and having to proceed to Tampico and come back again before landing her mails, owing to a suspicion of cholera being on board, and also owing to a mistake involving four days' delay in the transmission of my bag, I did not receive your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of October last until the night of the 7th instant, having a few hours previously received a telegram informing me of the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Jason" at Vera Cruz to await my orders.

In pursuance of the instructions contained in the despatch referred to, I lost no time in informing Señor Lerdo de Tejada of the determination of Her Majesty's Government to remove Her Majesty's Legation from this country, in the letter, translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

I also addressed a Circular despatch to Her Majesty's Consuls in this country, copy of which is also inclosed, embodying the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch above referred to for their future guidance; and considering it my duty to place

Her Majesty's subjects in possession of the motives which have induced Her Majesty's Government to break off all official intercourse with the Government of this country, I called a meeting this day of those residing in the capital, and read to them such portions of your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch as applied to the motives in question, imparting at the same time to the individuals assembled the recommendations as to their future conduct set forth by your Lordship.

In obedience to your Lordship's instructions I shall, so soon as the delay inseparable from the packing of the archives and public property belonging to the Mission, as well as the Consulate, and their conveyance to Vera Cruz, will permit, embark at that port in Her Majesty's ship "Jason" for New York, accompanied by Mr. Scott, Second Secretary; Mr. Carrington, Translator; Mr. Beraza, Messenger to this Mission; and by Mr. Consul Glennie and his family; and will lose no time in announcing my arrival at the above destination by telegraph.

I venture at the same time to request your Lordship to send me instructions to New York as to whether Mr. Carrington and Mr. Beraza are to accompany me on from thence to England; as also whether I am to deposit the archives there, or carry them on with me to England by packet.

In consequence of the heavy expenses which will be incurred in the conveyance of the Mission home, I trust that by drawing, as I am about to do, on the Chief Clerk of the Foreign Office for the sums which I may from time to time require, I may be honoured with your Lordship's approval. I shall not fail to advise your Lordship on each occasion of drawing.

I have, &c.
Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Mr. Middleton to Señor Lerdo.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 8, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I was, last night, placed in possession of the instructions of Her Majesty's Government to request you to have the goodness to furnish with passports, myself, and all such persons as are engaged in the service of Her Majesty's late Legation here, and also for Her Majesty's Consul and his family for the purpose of leaving this Republic, by the port of Vera Cruz.

I have also the honour to inclose herewith a list of the names of the persons for whom this favour is solicited.

With respect to the motives which have induced Her Majesty's Government to remove the several members of Her Majesty's late Legation, as well as Her Majesty's Consul and those employed in Her Majesty's late Consulate in this capital, as well as all archives and government property appertaining to the same, from this country, I have the honour to inform you, Sir, that I have been ordered to make the present application for passports for myself as well as the persons referred to, in consequence of the decision of the Mexican Government to hold no intercourse with the Agents of Powers who recognized the Government of the Emperor Maximilian. I am at the same time desired, upon my departure, formally to place under the protection of the Mexican Government, the persons and properties of British subjects, and to call upon the Mexican Government in fulfilment of the duty for which all States are responsible, to secure from injury at the hands of the public authorities all British subjects residing in, or passing through their country, and to extend to them, as long as they are within the country, and to their properties, full justice in all their dealings.

So soon as I am able to complete the arrangements for my departure, and for the transport of the archives of Her Majesty's late Legation, it will be my duty, in conformity with my instructions, to apply to you, Sir, for the necessary escort for enabling me to reach Vera Cruz in safety.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

List.

R. T. C. MIDDLETON, Esq., Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation (Acting Chargé d Affaires in Mexico).

C. S. Scott, Esq., Second Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, Mexico.
F. Glennie, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul at Mexico, and his family.
W. Carrington, Esq., Translator to Her Majesty's Legation in Mexico.
Mr. Rafael Beraza, Messenger to Her Majesty's Legation in Mexico.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls by Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 8, 1867.

I HAVE to inform you that, in accordance with instructions just received from Her Majesty's Government, I am about to depart from this country, accompanied by all the members of Her Majesty's Legation, and Her Majesty's Consul in this capital, conveying away with me the archives and all public property belonging to this Mission.

Her Majesty's Government do not think it desirable that you should quit this country unless circumstances should make it absolutely necessary for you to do so. I am instructed also to enjoin you to refrain from any attempt to force official communications with the authorities: but to confine yourself, if you should apply to them, to verbal representations in behalf of any British interests that may be placed in jeopardy. You should appeal not so much to treaties as to the good-will of the authorities, who, it may be hoped, will be disposed to yield to friendly representation, what they would withhold from formal demands.

I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to recommend Her Majesty's subjects, upon my departure, to conduct themselves peaceably towards the Mexican Government and authorities, to take no part in local politics, and to pronounce no opinion on events passing around them; to abstain from giving just cause of offence and to claim no other treatment than what is enjoyed by natives; and you, Sir, will understand, that your own conduct, and the advice that you may give to your countrymen must be regulated by these principles; but it will, nevertheless, be right in any case where wrong or injury is done to British subjects, to place on record in some form or other, not in the shape of protest or any ostentatious address to local authorities, the most complete and dispassionate evidence of the character and extent of injury done, so that if a better state of things should arise in Mexico, there may be no doubt or difficulty as to the nature of any complaint which may be preferred, and as to the extent of redress which may reasonably be demanded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

No. 11.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 27, 1868.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December* 16, 1867.

YOUR Lordship will learn by the copy of a letter I addressed to Her Majesty's Consul in this capital, herewith inclosed, that I considered his departure simultaneously with Her Majesty's Mission to be necessary, for the reasons set forth in the letter in question; and I considered it expedient also to place Mr. Glennie in possession of a copy of the Circular despatch addressed by me to Her Majesty's other Consuls in this country, forming Inclosure No. 2 in my despatch of the 9th instant, apprizing them of the determination of Her Majesty's Government to withdraw Her Majesty's Mission from Mexico, and which was communicated to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 25th October last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure in No. 11.

Mr. Middleton to Consul Glennie.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 10, 1867.

YOUR withdrawal from this country simultaneously with Her Majesty's Mission, appearing to me to be necessary, in consequence of the Mexican Government refusing to acknowledge you in your official capacity, and thereby placing you in an undignified position, as far as Her Majesty's Government are concerned, and one in which you might be exposed to insult, upon the departure of Her Majesty's Mission; under the circumstances with which you are acquainted, I think it expedient to place you in possession of the inclosed copy of a circular which I have addressed, in conformity with the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, to Her Majesty's Consuls in this country upon my withdrawal from it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

No. 12.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 27, 1868.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December* 16, 1867.

IN consequence of the instructions conveyed to me by your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of October last to remove Her Majesty's Legation from this country, and having, in virtue of the discretionary power conferred upon me by the same, considered it expedient that Mr. Consul Glennie, as reported to your Lordship in my preceding despatch, should withdraw with me, it became my duty to appoint some one to act temporarily as Agent for the British Convention Fund. I therefore requested the house of Barron, Forbes, and Co., of this capital, to replace Mr. Glennie in the Agency in question, being influenced in my determination by the fact of both Mr. Eustace Barron, recently deceased, and his late father having successively held the appointment of Her Majesty's Consul at Tepic, as well as by the reasons set forth in my letter to the firm, copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, as well as of the answer returned to it, by which your Lordship will perceive that they temporarily accept the trust referred to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Mr. Middleton to Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co.

Gentlemen, *Mexico, December* 10, 1867.

OWING to Mr. Consul Glennie's removal from this country, it becomes necessary that I should appoint some one to replace him as Agent for the British Convention Fund, and bearing in mind the high position occupied by your house, and the universal consideration enjoyed by you in this country, it appears to me that I am acting in the manner most calculated to protect the interests of the holders of the Stock referred to, by requesting you, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, to become, temporarily, the Agents for the Fund in question.

Awaiting your answer in order that, in the event of your consenting to my request, I may instruct Mr. Consul Glennie to deliver over to you, the property belonging to the British Convention Fund.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co. to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 11, 1867.

WE have had the honour of receiving your communication of yesterday's date, informing us "that owing to Mr. Consul Glennie's removal from this country, it becomes

necessary that you should appoint some one to replace him as Agent for the British Convention Fund," and you are thereupon pleased to suggest, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that we should become, temporarily, the Agents for the Fund in question hoping thereby to obtain for the holders of the Stock referred to that protection, which you are moreover good enough to add, will be best insured by their property remaining in our custody.

We are greatly flattered by the complimentary manner in which you have bee pleased to convey to us the choice you have made of this house for the object alluded to, and shall be most happy to understand with Mr. Consul Glennie in giving effect to your wishes.

We have, &c.
Per Barron, Forbes, and Co.,
(Signed) JAS. LONERGAN.

No. 13.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.— (*Received January* 27, 1868.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December* 17, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a letter from Mr. Allsopp, Her Majesty's Consul at Tepic, and who is accidentally in this capital, in reply to the Circular despatch addressed by me to him, copy of which forms inclosure No. 2 in my despatch to your Lordship of the 9th instant, informing him of the determination of Her Majesty's Government to withdraw Her Majesty's Mission from this country as conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th October last.

I have also the honour to inclose herewith the copy of a letter from Mr. Glennie, Her Majesty's Consul in this capital, acknowledging the receipt of my Circular despatch above alluded to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Consul Allsopp to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 11, 1867.

FINDING myself accidentally in this city in consequence of an unfortunate event which has brought me hither, I have had the honour of receiving here your Circular despatch of the 8th instant, informing me that, in accordance with instructions just received from Her Majesty's Government, you are about to depart from this country, accompanied by all the members of Her Majesty's Legation and Her Majesty's Consul in this capital, conveying away with you the archives and all public property belonging to the Mission.

You are further pleased to state that Her Majesty's Government do not think it desirable that I should quit this country unless circumstances should make it absolutely necessary for me to do so.

Although in obedience to the instructions conveyed by Her Majesty's Mission on a recent occasion, I have been very particular in refraining from any official intercourse with the Authorities of the State of Jalisco, and of the district of Tepic, while enjoining upon Her Majesty's Vice Consul at Mazatlan a similar course in regard to the Authorities of the State of Sinaloa, it will be my duty now again to impress upon Her Majesty's Consular Officers within the jurisdiction of my Consulate the necessity of strictly complying with the instructions in question, appealing on occasions when British interests may be placed in jeopardy, not so much to Treaties as to the good-will of the Authorities, who, it may be hoped, as you suggest, will be disposed to yield to friendly representation what they would withhold from formal demands.

Acting upon this principle, and further bearing in mind the repeated injunctions of Her Majesty's Government to Her Majesty's Consular Officers in this country, I think I may venture to assert, in noticing the recommendation which you have been instructed to make to Her Majesty's subjects upon your departure, that no just cause of offence will be given to the Mexican Authorities on the part of our countrymen residing on the Western Coast of Mexico, who are invariably careful in abstaining from taking any part in local politics, or in pronouncing any opinion on events passing around them.

I have every confidence, therefore, in the continuation of the same prudent course of conduct on their part; and since it is but just that while so conducting themselves they should be protected from injury to their persons or property, it shall be my duty also to make known to British subjects your suggestions to the effect that when injury or wrong is done to them, they should place on record, without giving offence by any ostentatious act, "the dispassionate evidence of the character and extent of injury done," that the same may be duly considered, and redress demanded at such future time as Her Majesty's Government may think fit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN F. ALLSOPP.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Consul Glennie to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 17, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing a copy of your circular to British Consuls relative to the withdrawal of Her Majesty's Mission from this country, and to inform you that I have transmitted copies of that circular to the Vice-Consuls within my district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. GLENNIE.

No. 14.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 27, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th ultimo, reporting that you had directed Mr. Glennie to withdraw from Mexico simultaneously with Her Majesty's Legation, and I have to state to you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 15.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 27, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th ultimo, I have to state to you that in consequence of the withdrawal of Mr. Consul Glennie from Mexico, I approve of your having appointed Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co., of that city to act temporarily as Agents for the British Convention Fund.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 16.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 4, 1868.)

My Lord, *Mexico, December* 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, in translation, the answer returned by Señor Lerdo de Tejada to the letter I addressed to him asking for passports for myself, the members of Her Majesty's Legation, and Her Majesty's Consul, and copy of which formed Inclosure No. 1 in my despatch of the 9th instant.

As your Lordship will perceive, Señor Lerdo assumes that the position in which the Mexican Government finds itself placed in regard to those Powers who recognized the Empire is not the result of its will, and that by the recognition in question former friendly relations were put an end to by those Powers themselves; and in support of this

opinion the newspaper published in this capital called the "Mexican Standard" has lately published two articles, which I have also the honour to inclose, containing quotations from the works of the best known writers on International Law, with a series of theoretical commentaries thereupon.

Señor Lerdo goes on to state that as the present position existing between the Mexican Republic and foreign Powers is none of the Republic's own seeking, she will be ready to treat anew with them so soon as they shall see fit to express a desire to that effect and upon just and proper terms, and concludes by stating that the Mexican Government will fulfil the duties imposed by the rights of nations and its own laws towards British subjects, as heretofore.

Acting in conformity with what I have imagined to be the spirit embodied in the last paragraph of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th October last, I sought an interview with Señor Lerdo upon the 18th instant, having previously informed him in a private note that I desired to pay him my respects, personally, previously to my retiring from this country, and he touched casually upon the position in which the Mexican Government finds itself placed in regard to foreign Powers, by their own act, as above referred to, and which, he added, he could not but regret; the rest of our interview, which lasted but a few minutes, was occupied by the most profuse offers of assistance to me in the journey I was about to undertake by Señor Lerdo, who ended by entreating me not to scruple to telegraph to him on the road should any of the arrangements for escorts, &c., which he had made be not carried out to my complete satisfaction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Señor Lerdo to Mr. Middleton.

(Translation.) *Department for Foreign Affairs, Mexico,*
Sir, *December* 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to send you the passports which you asked for in your note of the 8th instant for yourself and the other persons referred to.

With regard to the motives which have induced Her Britannic Majesty's Government to the effect alluded to, you have been pleased to acquaint me that you ask for the passports in consequence of the decision of the Mexican Government not to communicate with the agents of such powers as recognized the so-called Government of the Arch-Duke Maximilian.

The position in which the Mexican Government saw itself placed, and is still placed, in regard to those Powers, has not been the result of its will. The latter it was who adopted the decision of putting an end to the friendly Treaty relations which they had concluded with the Mexican Republic in disowning her existence in the society of nations.

The Republic has existed, and still exists, by the will of the Mexican people. Its Government has had, and still has, the intention when those Governments may desire to treat again with the Republic not to place any difficulty in the way of so doing in just and proper terms.

The Government has taken care that British subjects residing in Mexico should be under the efficacious protection of the laws. Not a single case of complaint has come to the knowledge of the Government as having been made either in those places which during the war remained subject to the authority of the Republic, or throughout its whole extent, since the effects of the foreign intervention terminated.

The Government of the Republic, as hitherto, will fulfil the duties imposed by the rights of nations and its own laws.

The escort you require, so soon as you are ready to take your departure, shall be at your disposal whenever you may be pleased to ask for it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) S. LERDO DE TEJADO.

No. 17.

Mr. Middleton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 4, 1868.)

My Lord, *Vera Cruz, January* 3, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, in original, the immediate departure of the "New Orleans" steamer rendering the copying of the same impossible, a letter, which awaited my arrival here last evening, together with its inclosures, from Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co., in Mexico, Agents for the British Convention, reporting the steps taken by the Mexican Government for the extinction of the bonds thereof by means of periodical sales, as well as the withdrawal of the amount deposited in the house of Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co. by Mr. Consul Glennie, upon transferring the agency referred to, to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

P.S.—I have just time to inclose to your Lordship the reply which I have returned to the letter of Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co.

R. T. C. M.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co. to Mr. Middleton.

Sir, *Mexico, December* 28, 1867.

HAVING been honoured, upon your departure, with the appointment of temporary Agent for the British Convention, we think it our duty now to put you in possession of the accompanying copies relative to some correspondence which has taken place with the Mexican Government in regard to this fund.

You will perceive by copy No. 1, that the Mexican Government have not only expressed their intention to dispose of the amount deposited in this house by Mr. Consul Glennie, but they have signified their determination to establish a new principle for the gradual extinction of the bonds by means of periodical sales, in the same manner, we presume, as it was done not long since respecting the French Convention.

The withdrawal of the deposit from this house to the Treasury Department we considered of very little importance, since Mr. Consul Glennie was informed in the first instance that the funds should be held at the disposal of the Mexican Government; but it was on account of the new principle introduced for the future payment of the Convention bonds, and interest accruing thereon, that we thought the communication of the Government extremely objectionable.

We accordingly addressed ourselves to the Finance Department (copy No. 2), asking, before giving our reply, for the necessary time to convoke a meeting of the holders of the British Convention bonds, in order to acquaint them with the demand made for the deposit, while informing them also of the nature of the new arrangements signified by the Mexican Government.

The meeting was held yesterday, and we have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the good sense and moderation which distinguished the majority of the creditors, who, after a long discussion, in which the peculiar position in which British subjects in this country at present stand was clearly pointed out and properly understood, came to the resolution embodied in our communication (copy No. 3) to the Mexican Government, to which we beg your reference.

The uncertainty prevailing in the communication submitted to the meeting, and the unsatisfactory terms in which the new arrangements are set forth, naturally produced some discontent among the creditors; but they all agreed in the expediency of not expressing any opinion on so delicate a matter, but to leave the whole case to the consideration and decision of Her Majesty's Government.

Our Mr. Allsopp having learnt, however, through a confidential source, that Señor Lerdo de Tejada was willing to give further explanations in order that his views might be fully understood, and was even desirous of giving an opportunity to be heard, waited upon him last night at the Minister's private residence. Señor Lerdo, having been made acquainted with the resolution of the creditors, stated that he had nothing to object to their proceeding, being well persuaded that all they sought was some guarantee for the payment of what is due to them, while exercising a legitimate right in their own

defence. "But," added Señor Lerdo, "no resolution of the meeting will induce the Government to depart from their fixed determination to carry out their new arrangement for the gradual extinction of the foreign Conventions, and for this purpose it is our intention to set apart from the receipts of the stamped paper (papel sellado) and other sources of revenue from 40,000 to 60,000 dollars per month, this amount to increase gradually as the national resources improve with introducing the strictest economy in all the branches of the Administration." Señor Lerdo being asked as to the proportion in which these sums would be applied to the British and Spanish Conventions, was not prepared to give an answer, but said that he thought it would be in equal proportions, for although the British Convention Fund is about one half of the Spanish, yet the latter, he added, has been brought about under the influence of so many abuses that eventually it will be reduced perhaps to the same amount as the British. Señor Lerdo moreover stated that he was not sure whether the principles laid down for the extinction of the foreign Conventions would not be made applicable also to the Mexican Loan contracted in London; but upon this point he shunned further remarks, and here the conversation ended.

In laying before you the preceding account of what has taken place since your departure in connexion with the trust which you were pleased to commit to our care, we thought we should be adopting the most proper course for the transmission of this information to Her Majesty's Government, as we are not aware that during the time that Mr. Consul Glennie had under his charge the management of the Convention Fund he availed himself of any other channel. We shall be glad, nevertheless, to have your instructions for our future guidance upon this matter.

We have, &c.
Pro Barron, Forbes, and Co.,
(Signed) JAS. LENERGAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Señor Torrea to Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co.

Department of Finance and Public Credit,
(Translation.) *Mexico, December* 21, 1867.

THE President has good grounds for considering as non-existent those Treaties which united Mexico with the Powers which disowned the Republican Government of this country, and acknowledged the so-called Imperial Government that French intervention attempted to establish; those Powers having been, by such conduct, the breakers of the said Treaties.

As the English Convention is included among them, it is in the same position as any of the others, and must therefore also be considered as non-existent.

The Government does not on this account disown the obligation under which the National Treasury lies to pay the legal and acknowledged bonds ("titulos") of that extinct Convention. All that it disowns is, that that obligation retains an international character, and that the terms of payment stipulated in an agreement now at an end, ought still to subsist.

In virtue of the freedom which it now possesses to fix them as may appear best to it, the Government has thought fit to decide on proceeding to the amortization of the bonds of the extinct English Convention by public auctions.

The first of these auctions will take place with the fund of 29,649 dollars 8 cents, which was in the possession of Mr. Glennie, according to his communication to this Department by note of 7th November last, and which is now in your possession, according to Mr. Glennie's communication by note of the 19th instant. That amount you will immediately deliver into the general Treasury.

The sales that are to follow will take place with such funds as will be duly signified, the bonds admissible for their amortization being solely and exclusively those of the extinct English Convention, recognized as legal by the Republican Government; and the bonds of the best bidder, or the one who will close them at the lowest price, being preferred for that amortization.

As the coupons which have been paid must be in your archives, you will be pleased to deliver them into the general Treasury, together with the account of what shall have been redeemed up to the date, for capital and interest respectively, of the extinct English Convention.

By order of the President I communicate this to you, for your information and the other purposes.

Independence! Liberty! and Reform!

(Signed) J. TORREA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 17.

Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co. to Señor Torrea.

(Translation.)

Señor Ministro, *Mexico, December* 24, 1867.

THIS day has been delivered to us your despatch of the 21st instant, in which you are pleased to inform us what has been ordered by the Supreme Government respecting the English Convention, and you give us notice to deliver immediately into the General Treasury of the nation the effects which Mr. Glennie deposited in this house when he made us the *ad interim* Agents of that Convention.

We have no doubt that the Supreme Government, understanding the embarrassing position in which we are placed by reason of the President's orders, will not take it ill that, before complying with the directions given to us, we should have the opportunity of calling a meeting of all the creditors, for the purpose of making them acquainted with the terms of the aforesaid Supreme Order now communicated to us.

This we will do with all the speed which the urgency of the case requires, and in the meantime, with the due assurances of our respect and consideration, we are, &c.

Pro Barron, Forbes, and Co.,

(Signed) JACOBO LANERGAN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 17.

Messrs. Barron, Forbes, an Co. to Señor Torrea.

(Translation.)

Señor Ministro, *Mexico, December* 27, 1868.

IN conformity with what we had the honour of stating to you in our communication of the 24th instant, a meeting of the creditors of the English Convention took place to-day, and the despatch from your Department dated the 21st was read thereat.

Having learned its contents, the gentlemen who were present, and who together represented the greater part of the amounts due, unanimously agreed to the following resolution :—

"The meeting does not think itself authorized to take into consideration the points treated of in the Supreme Government's note of the 21st instant, and therefore confines itself to beg of the Government, through Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co., to be pleased not to proceed to the proposed sale, but to leave the existing funds in the depositary where they are now kept."

In requesting that you will bring this resolution to the knowledge of the President, with the hope that he will vouchsafe to accede to the wishes of the meeting, we have to add, for our own part, that we will occupy ourselves as soon as possible in making out an account of the capital and interest redeemed up to the date; and we will deliver into the General Treasury the coupons which have been paid, as directed by the above-mentioned note of the 21st instant.

Meanwhile, &c.

Pro Barron, Forbes, and Co.,

(Signed) JACOBO LONERGAN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 17.

Mr. Middleton to Messrs. Barron, Forbes, and Co.

Gentlemen, *Vera Cruz, January* 3, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt last night of your letter of the 28th ultimo, reporting the steps taken by you to endeavour to support the interests of the holders of British Convention Stock against the aggressions of the Mexican Government, and have the honour to inform you that I have already transmitted the letter in question

to Her Majesty's Government; and whilst it is my agreeable duty to testify to the zeal and intelligence exhibited by you under such difficult circumstances, I have to request that, as I am leaving this country, you will have the goodness to address any further communications which you may have to make upon the matter in question, direct to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. T. C. MIDDLETON.

MEXICO.

PAPERS relating to the Withdrawal of the British Mission from Mexico : 1867-68.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 3*d.*]

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DESPATCH

FROM

LORD AUGUSTUS LOFTUS,

INCLOSING COPY OF A

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION

BETWEEN THE

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION

AND

SPAIN,

Signed at Madrid, March 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

4023

Despatch from Lord Augustus Loftus, inclosing Copy of a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the North German Confederation and Spain.

Lord A. Loftus to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 4.)

(Extract.) *Berlin, May 2, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith copy of a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation lately concluded between the King of Prussia, acting in the name of the North German Confederation, as also of the States of the Zollverein not being members of the Northern Confederation, including likewise the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, and the Queen of Spain.

Inclosure.

Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the North German Confederation, and the States of the Zollverein not members of that Confederation, and Spain. Signed at Madrid, March 30, 1868.

SA Majesté le Roi de Prusse, au nom de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord et des membres de l'Association de Douanes et Commerce Allemande, qui ne font pas partie de cette Confédération, savoir : la Couronne de Bavière, la Couronne de Wurtemberg, le Grand Duché de Bade et le Grand Duché de Hesse, pour ses parties situées au sud du Main, ainsi que pour le Grand Duché de Luxembourg, compris dans son système de douane et d'impôts, d'une part ; et Sa Majesté la Reine des Espagnes, d'autre part ; animés d'un égal désir d'étendre de plus en plus le développement des relations commerciales et maritimes entre l'Allemagne et l'Espagne, ont résolu de conclure un Traité à cet effet et ont nommé pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir :

Sa Majesté le Roi de Prusse, le Baron Charles Auguste Ernest Constantin Henri Jules de Canitz et Dallwitz, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord près Sa Majesté Catholique, &c. ;

Sa Majesté la Reine des Espagnes, Don Lorenzo Arrazola, Grand-Croix de l'Ordre Royal et distingué de Charles III, de l'Ordre Royal d'Isabelle la Catholique, des Ordres de la Conception de Villaviçosa et du Christ de Portugal, et de l'Ordre de St. Grégoire le Grand des Etats Pontificaux, Sénateur du Royaume, ex-Président du Conseil des Ministres, ex-Ministre de la Justice, ex-Conseiller Royal, ex-Député aux Cortés, et ex-Président de la Cour Suprême de Justice, Président de l'Académie Royale des Sciences Morales et Politiques, Vice-Président de l'Académie d'Archéologie du Prince Alphonse, Son Premier Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Affaires Etrangères, &c. ;

Lesquelles, après s'être communiqués leurs pleins-pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des Articles suivants :—

ARTICLE I.

Il y aura pleine et entière liberté de commerce et de navigation entre tous les Etats des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes. Les sujets de chacune d'elles jouiront dans les territoires de l'autre des mêmes droits, priviléges, faveurs, immunités, et exemptions dont jouissent actuellement ou jouiront à l'avenir, en matière de commerce et de navigation, les sujets de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE II.

Les sujets de chacune des deux Parties Contractantes auront réciproquement dans les Etats et Possessions de l'autre Partie la même faculté que les nationaux d'entrer avec

leurs navires et chargements dans tous les ports et les rivières qui sont ou seront ouvertes à la navigation de toutes les nations, de voyager, de séjourner, de faire le commerce en gros et en détail, de louer ou posséder des maisons, magasins, et boutiques, d'effectuer des expéditions de marchandises ou de valeurs par voie de terre ou de mer, de les prendre en consignation, tant du pays que de l'étranger, le tout sans payer d'autres droits que ceux qui sont ou pourront être perçus sur les nationaux ; ils pourront y faire des achats, ou vendre directement ou par l'entremise d'un médiateur qu'ils choisiront eux-mêmes, fixer les prix des biens, effets, marchandises ou autres objets, tant importés qu'indigènes, soit qu'ils les vendent dans le pays même, soit qu'ils les exportent à l'étranger, en se conformant toutefois aux lois et réglements du pays ; ils pourront y vaquer à leurs affaires, présenter des déclarations aux douanes, tant en leur propre nom qu'en se substituant une personne quelconque, selon qu'ils le jugeront convenable et sans payer d'autre salaire que celui dont ils conviendront avec cette personne ; enfin ils pourront faire valoir leurs droits devant les juges et tribunaux, les défendre et se servir pour cet effet d'avocats, de substituts ou d'agents choisis par eux-mêmes.

ARTICLE III.

En ce qui concerne l'acquisition et la possession d'immeubles de toute espèce, ainsi que la disposition à l'égard de ces immeubles et le payement d'impôts, de taxes ou droits pour ces dispositions, les sujets de chacune des Parties Contractantes jouiront dans les territoires de l'autre des droits accordés aux nationaux.

ARTICLE IV.

Les sujets de chacune des deux Parties Contractantes jouiront dans les territoires de l'autre, tant pour leur personne que par rapport à leur propriété, des mêmes droits (excepté les droits politiques) et des mêmes priviléges qui sont ou seront accordée aux nationaux, en observant toutefois les lois du pays. Ils ne pourront dans aucun cas être soumis à des taxes, charges, et impôts, autres ou plus élevés que ceux que les nationaux sont tenus de payer.

ARTICLE V.

Les sujets de chacune des Parties Contractantes seront exempts, dans le territoire de l'autre Partie, de tout service personnel dans l'armée, la marine, et la milice nationale, de toutes charges de guerre, emprunts forcés, réquisitions et contributions militaires de quelque espèce que ce soit. Leurs propriétés ne peuvent être séquestrées, ni leurs navires, cargaisons, marchandises ou effets être retenus pour un usage public quelconque, sans qu'il leur soit accordé préalablement un dédommagement à concerter entre les parties intéressées sur des bases justes et equitables.

ARTICLE VI.

En ce qui concerne la propriété des marques de fabrique, des marques ou étiquettes de marchandises et des dessins ou modèles industriels, les sujets de chacune des Parties Contractantes jouiront dans les territoires de l'autre des mêmes droits que les nationaux.

ARTICLE VII.

Les navires de l'une des Parties Contractantes qui entreront sur lest ou chargés dans les ports de l'autre, ou qui en sortiront, quel que soit le lieu de leur départ ou de leur destination, y seront traités sous tous les rapports sur le même pied que les navires nationaux. Tant à leur entrée que durant leur séjour et à leur sortie ils ne payeront d'autres ni de plus forts droits de fanaux, de tonnage, de pilotage, de port, de remorque, de quarantaine, ou autres charges qui pèsent sur la coque du navire, sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, perçus au nom ou au profit de l'Etat, des fonctionnaires publics, des communes ou des corporations quelconques, que ceux dont y sont ou seront passibles les navires nationaux.

ARTICLE VIII.

Seront considérés navires Allemands ou Espagnols tous ceux qui seront reconnus navires des Etats Confédérés d'après les lois Fédérales, ou navires Espagnols d'après les lois Espagnoles.

ARTICLE IX.

En ce qui concerne le placement des navires, leur chargement ou déchargement dans les ports, rades, havres, et bassins, et généralement pour toutes les formalités et dispositions quelconques auxquelles peuvent être soumis les navires de commerce, leurs équipages et leurs cargaisons, il est convenu qu'il ne sera accordé aux navires nationaux de l'une des Parties Contractantes aucun privilège ni aucun faveur qui ne le soit également aux navires de l'autre; la volonté des deux Parties Contractantes étant que, sous ce rapport aussi, leurs bâtiments soient traités sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité.

ARTICLE X.

Les bâtiments de guerre des deux Parties Contractantes seront traités dans les ports réciproques sur le même pied que ceux de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE XI.

Les produits du sol et de l'industrie et les objets de toute espèce et nature, importés par navires Espagnols dans les ports Allemands, et réciproquement les produits du sol et de l'industrie et les objets de toute espèce et nature importés par navires Allemands dans les ports Espagnols, ne paieront, quel que soit leur origine et le lieu d'où ils sont importés, d'autres ni de plus forts droits d'entrée, et ne seront soumis à d'autres charges ou formalités que si l'importation des mêmes produits ou objets avait lieu sous pavillon de la nation la plus favorisée.

Les produits du sol et de l'industrie et les objets de toute espèce et nature qui pourront être légalement exportés ou réexportés des ports d'une des Parties Contractantes par bâtiments d'une autre nation quelconque pourront également en être exportés ou réexportés par bâtiments de l'autre des Parties Contractantes sans payer d'autres ou de plus hauts droits et sans être soumis à d'autres charges ou formalités que si l'exportation ou la réexportation des mêmes objets se faisait par bâtiments de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE XII.

Les marchandises importées par des navires appartenant à l'une ou à l'autre Partie Contractante dans les ports Espagnols ou Allemands pourront y être mises en entrepôt ou être livrées au transit ou à la réexportation, le tout en conformité des lois générales qui existent sous ce rapport dans le pays respectif, et sans être assujetties à des droits d'entrepôt, de magasinage, de vérification, de surveillance, ou à des charges quelconques autres ou plus élevées que celles auxquelles sont soumises les marchandises apportées par navires nationaux.

Il est entendu toutefois que si les marchandises sont déclarées pour la consommation, elles paieront les droits de douane selon le pavillon du navire par lequel elles ont été importées et d'après les réglements de douane existants.

ARTICLE XIII.

Les marchandises de toute nature venant des territoires de l'une des Parties Contractantes ou y allant, seront exemptes, dans les territoires de l'autre, de tout droit de transit, sauf l'observation des lois qui y sont en vigueur.

Le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée est réciproquement garanti à chacune des Parties Contractantes pour tout ce qui concerne le transit.

ARTICLE XIV.

En tant et aussi longtemps que le cabotage est réservé par les lois d'une des Parties Contractantes exclusivement aux bâtiments nationaux, il ne pourra être exercé par les bâtiments de l'autre Partie. Cependant les navires de chacune des Parties Contractantes, entrant dans un des ports de l'autre, et qui n'y voudraient décharger qu'une partie de leur cargaison, pourront, en se conformant aux lois et réglements du pays respectif, conserver à leur bord la partie de la cargaison qui serait destinée à un autre port, soit du même pays, soit d'un autre pays, et la réexporter, sans être astreints à payer des droits autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui seront perçus des bâtiments nationaux dans le même cas. Il est également entendu que ces mêmes navires pourront commencer leur chargement dans un port et le continuer dans un autre ou dans plusieurs ports du même pays, ou l'y accomplir sans être astreints à payer des droits autres ou plus élevés que ceux auxquelles sont soumis les bâtiments nationaux.

ARTICLE XV.

Les Parties Contractantes conviennent que toute faveur ou tout privilége par rapport à l'importation, à l'exportation, ou à la navigation que l'une d'elles a accordé ou pourrait accorder par la suite à une tierce Puissance, sera immédiatement et de plein droit étendu à l'autre. De plus aucune des Parties Contractantes ne soumettra l'autre à une prohibition d'importation ou d'exportation qui ne serait pas appliquée en même temps à toutes les autres nations.

ARTICLE XVI.

Avant que l'expédition des marchandises soumises aux droits *ad valorem* peut avoir lieu, les intéressés devront présenter à la Douane de l'autre pays, soit les factures originales indiquant les prix qui serviront de base à l'estimation de la valeur, soit une déclaration écrite constatant la valeur des marchandises importées.

Si les employés de la Douane jugent insuffisante la valeur indiquée, soit dans les factures, soit dans les déclarations, ou si la valeur ne leur est pas déclarée par écrit, ils notifieront aux intéressés par écrit leur estimation de la valeur. Alors, s'il y a accord entre les employés et les intéressés, on fixera les droits d'après les valeurs dont on sera convenu réciproquement ; s'il n'y a pas eu accord, les droits seront fixés d'après les valeurs indiquées dans les factures ou dans les déclarations, à moins que les employés ne préfèrent retenir eux-mêmes la marchandise en payant le prix notifié par eux aux intéressés et augmenté dans la proportion fixée à cet effet pour les importateurs ou les produits de la nation la plus favorisée.

Dans ce cas les employés seront tenus d'effectuer le paiement dans les quinze jours qui suivront la déclaration de payer les droits d'après la valeur fixée par eux et refusée par les importateurs, et de se charger de la perte ou du profit résultant de la vente de la marchandise.

ARTICLE XVII.

Les provinces Espagnols d'outre mer étant régies par des lois spéciales ne sont pas comprises dans les stipulations qui précèdent. Cependant les Allemands y jouiront par rapport à leur commerce et leur navigation, aux droits de navigation et de douane, tant à l'entrée qu'à la sortie, et à l'expédition des navires et des marchandises, des mêmes droits, priviléges, immunités, faveurs et exemptions qui sont ou seront accordés à la nation la plus favorisée. Les produits Allemands n'y seront pas assujettis à d'autres droits, charges ni formalités que les produits de la nation la plus favorisée.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Le présent Traité restera en vigueur jusqu'au 1 Janvier de l'année 1878. Dans le cas où aucune des Parties Contractantes n'aurait notifié douze mois avant la fin de la période sus-indiquée son intention d'en faire cesser les effets, le Traité demeurera obligatoire jusqu'à l'expiration d'une année, à partir du jour où l'une ou l'autre des Parties Contractantes l'aura dénoncé.

ARTICLE XIX.

Le présent Traité sera ratifié, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Madrid dans l'espace de trois mois, ou plutôt si faire se peut.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs l'ont signé et y ont apposé leurs cachets.

Fait en double expédition à Madrid, le trentième jour de Mars, de l'an de grâce de mil huit cent soixante-huit.

(L.S.) v. CANITZ.
(L.S.) LORENZO ARRAZOLA.

ARTICLE ADDITIONNEL.

Les Parties Contractantes sont convenues qu'aussi longtemps que les marchandises circulant dans le territoire de la Confédération de l'Allemagne du Nord resteront soumises, lors de leur passage par le Grand Duché de Mecklembourg-Schwerin, à un droit de transit, les stipulations du 1er alinéa de l'Article XIII du Traité de ce jour ne seront pas appliquables à ce Grand Duché.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé le présent Article Additionnel et y ont apposé leurs cachets.

Fait à Madrid, le 30 Mars, 1868.

(L.S.) v. CANITZ.
(L.S.) LORENZO ARRAZOLA.

(Translation.)

HIS Majesty the King of Prussia, in the name of the North German Confederation and of the members of the German Zollverein not forming part of that Confederation, namely, the Crown of Bavaria, the Crown of Wurtemberg, the Grand Duchy of Baden, and the Grand Duchy of Hesse, for their parts situated south of the Main, as well as for the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, included in its system of customs and duties, of the one part; and Her Majesty the Queen of the Spains, of the other part; animated by an equal desire of extending still more and more the development of the commercial and maritime relations between Germany and Spain, have resolved to conclude a Treaty for that purpose, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, namely:—

His Majesty the King of Prussia, Baron Charles Augustus Ernest Constantine Henry Julius von Canitz and Dallwitz, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the North German Confederation to Her Catholic Majesty, &c.;

Her Majesty the Queen of the Spains, Don Lorenzo Arrazola, Grand Cross of the Royal and Distinguished Order of Charles III, of the Royal Order of Isabel the Catholic, of the Orders of the Conception of Villaviçosa and of Christ of Portugal, and of the Order of St. Gregory the Great of the Pontifical States, Senator of the Kingdom, ex-President of the Council of Ministers, ex-Minister of Justice, ex-Councillor Royal, ex-Deputy to the Cortes, and ex-President of the Supreme Court of Justice, President of the Royal Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, Vice-President of Prince Alphonso's Academy of Archeology, Her Chief Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs, &c.;

Who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, which were found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be full and complete freedom of commerce and navigation between all the States of the two High Contracting Parties. The subjects of each State shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same rights, privileges, favours, immunities, and exemptions as are now, or shall in future be, enjoyed by the subjects of the most favoured nation in matters of commerce and navigation.

ARTICLE II.

The subjects of each of the two Contracting Parties shall reciprocally enjoy in the States and Possessions of the other the same liberty as that enjoyed by the natives to enter with their ships and cargoes into all ports and rivers which are, or may hereafter be, open to ships of all nations; to travel, reside, and trade, both by wholesale and retail; to hire or possess houses, warehouses, and shops; to make consignments of merchandize or securities by sea or by land; to receive them on consignment both from the interior of the country and from abroad, paying only the same duties as those paid, or that may hereafter be paid, by the natives; to buy or to sell, either direct or through the medium of an agent chosen by themselves; to fix the price of the goods, effects, merchandize, or other articles, whether imported or indigenous, whether they sell them in the country itself or export them abroad, but always in conformity with the laws and regulations of the country; they shall be at liberty to attend to their own affairs there, to present declarations at the Custom-houses, either in their own name, or by substituting some other person, as they may think fit, and paying nothing more than the remuneration agreed upon between them; and finally, they shall be free to prosecute and defend their rights before the Judges and Tribunals of the country, employing for that purpose any lawyers, procurators, or agents whom they may choose.

ARTICLE III.

The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same rights as those granted to the natives, respecting the acquisition and possession of real property of all kinds, and also respecting the disposal of such real property and the payment of imposts, taxes, or duties on such disposal.

ARTICLE IV.

The subjects of each of the two Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same privileges as those now granted, or which may hereafter be granted, to the natives, as well as the same rights (except political rights) both with regard to their persons and to their property, always, however, in conformity with the laws of the country; and in no case shall there be imposed upon them any taxes, charges, or imposts, other or higher than those paid by the natives.

ARTICLE V.

The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties shall be free, in the territory of the other Party, from all kinds of personal service in the army, navy, or national militia, and from all war charges, forced loans, requisitions, and military contributions of every kind. Their property cannot be sequestrated, nor can their ships, cargoes, merchandize, or effects be detained for any public use whatever, unless they be previously indemnified according to an agreement between the parties interested, upon just and equitable terms.

ARTICLE VI.

The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territories of the other the same rights as those enjoyed by the natives, in regard to the ownership of trade marks, marks and tickets for merchandize, and industrial drawings or models.

ARTICLE VII.

The ships of one of the Contracting Parties coming into or going out of the ports of the other, in ballast or with cargo, whatever their original starting point or ultimate destination, shall be treated there in all respects on the same footing as the national vessels. They shall not, whether on coming into port, during their stay there, or on going out, be subject to any other or higher dues than those now paid, or which may hereafter be paid, by national vessels, whether for lighthouse, tonnage, pilotage, port, tug, or quarantine, or any other charges, under any denomination whatever, levied on the vessel's hull, whether collected in the name and for the benefit of the State, of public functionaries, or of any commune or corporation.

ARTICLE VIII.

All ships recognized as ships belonging to the Confederated States according to the Federal laws, or as Spanish ships according to the Spanish laws, shall be considered as German or Spanish ships.

ARTICLE IX.

With regard to everything concerning the placing, loading, and unloading of ships in the ports, roads, harbours, and basins, and with regard, generally, to all formalities and regulations of any kind, to which merchant-ships, their crews or cargoes, may be subject, it is hereby agreed that the national vessels of one of the Contracting Parties shall have no privilege or favour shown to them which shall not also be granted to the ships of the other; the desire of the Contracting Parties being that, in this respect also, their ships should be treated on a footing of perfect equality.

ARTICLE X.

The ships of war of the two Contracting Parties shall be treated, in the respective ports, in the same manner as those of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE XI.

The produce of the soil and of industry, and goods of every kind and nature, imported into German ports in Spanish ships, and reciprocally the produce of the soil and of industry, and goods of every kind and nature, imported into Spanish ports in German ships, whatever may be their origin and the place from whence they come, shall not pay other or higher import duties, nor be liable to any other charge or formality, than they would be subject to were they imported under the flag of the most favoured nation. The produce of the soil and of industry, and goods of every kind and nature, which can legally be exported or

re-exported from the ports of one of the Contracting Parties in the ships of any other nation, may also be exported or re-exported in the ships of the other Contracting Party, without having on that account to pay other or higher duties, or being liable to any other charges or formalities, than they would be were they exported or re-exported in the ships of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE XII.

Merchandize imported into Spanish or German ports in the ships of either of the Contracting Parties may be placed in depôt, or delivered for transit or for re-exportation, subject to the general rules established on the subject in each country respectively; and such merchandize shall be liable to no dues different to or greater than those paid by merchandize imported in national ships, whether for deposit, warehousing, examination, superintendence, or any other charges whatever.

It shall, however, be understood, that when the merchandize is declared as being intended for use in the country, it shall be liable to the corresponding Customs dues, according to the nationality of the vessel importing, and to the existing Customs regulations.

ARTICLE XIII.

Merchandize of all kinds, coming from or going to the territories of one of the Contracting Parties, shall be exempt, in the territories of the other, from all transit dues, subject to the existing laws.

The treatment accorded to the most favoured nation is reciprocally guaranteed to each of the Contracting Parties, as regards everything connected with transit.

ARTICLE XIV.

In so far and so long as the coasting trade is, by the laws of either of the Contracting Parties, exclusively reserved to national vessels, it cannot be carried on by the ships of the other party. Notwithstanding this, the ships of each of the Contracting Parties, coming into one of the ports of the other Party, and not wishing to discharge more than a part of the cargo there, may, subject to the laws and regulations of the respective country, keep on board the rest thereof destined for another port, either of the same country or of any other, and may re-export the same, without being liable to the payment of duties other or higher than those which, under the same circumstances, would be paid by national vessels. It is also understood that it shall be lawful for the said vessels to commence taking in their cargo in one port, and to continue or complete their loading in another port or in several ports of the same country, without being liable to the payment of duties other or higher than those which are charged on national vessels.

ARTICLE XV.

The Contracting Parties agree that any favour or privilege with regard to importation, exportation, or navigation, which one of them has granted, or may hereafter grant, to a third Power, shall be extended to the other immediately and as a matter of right. Besides this, neither of the Contracting Parties shall impose upon the other any prohibition concerning importation and exportation which is not at the same time applied to all other nations.

ARTICLE XVI.

Before the transmission of goods subject to *ad valorem* duties can take place, the parties interested must present to the Custom-house of the other country either the original invoices showing the prices, which shall serve as a basis for estimating the value, or else a written declaration stating the value of the goods imported.

Should the Custom-house officers consider the value stated in the invoices or declarations to be insufficient, or should they have received no written declaration of the value, they shall give a written notification of their own valuation to the interested parties. Then, if the Custom-house officers and the interested parties come to an understanding, the duties shall be settled according to the valuation to be mutually agreed upon; if no understanding be come to, the duties shall be fixed according to the values stated in the invoices or in the declarations, unless the Custom-house officers prefer to retain the goods, paying the price notified by themselves to the parties interested, and augmented in the proportion fixed for that purpose in regard to importers or produce of the most favoured nation.

In that case, the Custom-house officers shall be bound to make the payment within the fifteen days following the declaration, and to pay the duties according to the valuation made by themselves and refused by the importers, as well as to take upon themselves the loss or gain resulting from the sale of the goods.

ARTICLE XVII.

The stipulations of this Treaty are not applicable to the Spanish Colonies, they being governed by special laws; but Germans shall enjoy therein, with respect to their commerce and navigation, to the customs and navigation dues, the arrival, departure, and despatch of ships or goods, the same rights, privileges, immunities, favours, and exemptions as are granted or shall be granted to the most favoured nation. German produce shall not be subject there to any other dues, charges, or formalities than those imposed upon the produce of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE XVIII.

This Treaty shall remain in force until the 1st of January, 1878. If neither of the Contracting Parties shall, twelve months before the expiration of the above-mentioned term, have notified its intention of causing the effects thereof to cease, the Treaty shall continue in force until the expiration of a year from the day on which either of the Contracting Parties shall have given notice of its termination.

ARTICLE XIX.

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Madrid, within the space of three months, or before if possible.

In faith whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed it and set their seals to it.

Done in duplicate, at Madrid, on the 30th of March, 1868.

(L.S.) v. CANITZ.
(L.S.) LORENZO ARRAZOLA.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

The Contracting Parties have agreed that so long as goods circulating in the territory of the North German Confederation are obliged to pay transit dues on passing through the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, the stipulations of the first paragraph of Article XIII of the Treaty of this date shall not apply to the said Grand Duchy.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Additional Article and set their seals to it.

Done at Madrid, on the 30th of March, 1868.

(L.S.) v. CANITZ.
(L.S.) LORENZO ARRAZOLA.

Despatch from Lord Augustus Loftus, inclosing Copy of a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the North German Confederation and Spain, signed at Madrid, March 30, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

BETWEEN

GREAT BRITAIN AND PORTUGAL.

1866—68.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

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Correspondence respecting Commercial Relations between Great Britain and Portugal: 1866—68.

No. 1.

Sir A. Magenis to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 4.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, March 28, 1866.*

M. BOURREE, the French Minister at this Court, has proposed to the Portuguese Government to negotiate a new Treaty of Commerce with France, and M. Cazal Ribeiro, who, in 1860, was Minister for Foreign Affairs and Finance, has been named on the part of His Most Faithful Majesty to treat the question with M. Bourrée.

Very little progress has been made in the negotiation, and the Plenipotentiaries have been, and are, occupied in passing in review and in discussing the Articles of the Tariff.

I understand that one of the great objects which M. Bourrée has in view, is to obtain a different classification and denomination of certain French products at the Portuguese Custom House. For example, silk is very highly taxed in this country, and in mixed textile fabrics made in France, in which silk is used to a very small amount, a duty out of all fair proportion to the quantity of silk employed is levied.

The commerce between France and Portugal is very trifling. The former country takes scarcely anything in the natural products of Portugal, wine, fruit, &c., and supplies it with fancy and silk articles. I am told that the most important article of export from hence to France is the ashes of the gold and silver smiths for refining in Paris.

The entire export and import trade of Portugal is stated in official documents to be 42,000 contos, less than 10,000,000*l.* sterling, though Count de Castro says it amounts to 13,000,000*l.* sterling.

From the Board of Trade Returns for 1865, just published, I see that Portugal is stated to have taken English produce to the amount of 2,216,900*l.* sterling, probably a third of her entire imports, and it is hardly to be doubted that we are her customers to very nearly a similar amount. The trade then, between Great Britain and Portugal, though of small amount in comparison to our general commercial transactions, is of vital and great importance to the latter country; and Count de Castro, in my conversations with his Excellency on M. Bourrée's negotiations, evidently is of that opinion, and I have no doubt would willingly accept any proposals on our part for a revised Commercial Treaty. I think it right, however, to mention that what they are most anxious to obtain is a modification in the alcoholic test by which their wines are taxed in England, and I have invariably told the present, as well as former Ministers for Foreign Affairs, that our Revenue Laws would preclude the possibility of making any such alteration. If, however, any means could be devised to alter this test, without injury to our Revenue Laws, we should find this Government quite prepared to make corresponding concessions.

No. 2.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 26, 1866.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting that negotiations have been opened for the conclusion of a new Treaty of Commerce between France and Portugal, I have to instruct you to watch these negotiations, and to report to me fully on the subject, which is important with reference to any future commercial negotiations between this country and Portugal.

The position of the French Government as regards Portugal is different from that of Her Majesty's Government. France has as yet little or no trade with Portugal, and can

afford to make large concessions with a view to extend her commercial intercourse with that country, but England, who already carries on a considerable trade with Portugal, has few concessions to make, except the readjustment of the alcoholic test on Portuguese wines, which it is impossible for Her Majesty's Government at present to contemplate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 3.

Mr. Lytton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 31.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, May* 19, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, addressed to Sir A. Magenis, with instructions to watch the negotiations now on foot between France and Portugal for the conclusion of a Treaty of Commerce between those two countries, and to report to your Lordship the progress of those negotiations.

I have already had several conversations with the French Minister here upon this subject.

M. Bourrée has informed me that his first instructions from Paris for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty with Portugal were framed upon a very erroneous estimate, both of what the Portuguese Government might be willing to concede in the modification of its present tariff, and generally of the extent to which the principles of economical science are understood and accepted in this country. The difficulties which he has hitherto experienced in the negotiation of new commercial relations with Portugal have, indeed, arisen not from the minuteness, but the magnitude of the concessions which it is in the power of the Portuguese Government to make. The position of the Portuguese negotiators has, in short, been rendered advantageous by the vices of that commercial system, the modification of which constitutes the object of the bargain to be made; because a less oppressive tariff on the part of Portugal will represent the result of concessions upon her part, for which no nominal equivalent can be offered by a country whose commercial code is already the expression of those more liberal principles which Portugal is asked to adopt.

A single instance will suffice to shew the nature of this difficulty. Portugal exports annually to France about 140 litres of wine. The whole amount of fiscal charges payable in France upon this import is about 350 francs. France exports to Portugal annually not more than 46 litres of wine. The Portuguese duties upon this import amount to not less than 25,000 francs.

The Government of this country acknowledge a deficit of 1,000,000*l.* sterling, the income being a little less than 4,000,000*l.* sterling. The actual deficit is probably larger. Taxation cannot be greatly increased, expenditure is not likely to be much reduced, and credit is limited. The average duration of Cabinets in Portugal is one year. Consequently, pecuniary benefits which are to accrue to the State fifty years hence are matters of comparative indifference.

M. Bourrée, having found no basis for negotiation in his first instructions, has, in concert with the Portuguese Government, drawn up a counter project, which the Portuguese Government accept. This project has been forwarded to Paris, and now awaits the adhesion of the French Government. If it be accepted by France, the negotiations will be thereby brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and the Treaty signed as soon as possible. If it be rejected, the basis upon which negotiations will be renewed, will of course depend upon the nature of the reply received from the French Government. M. Bourrée assures me that he can form no sort of anticipation whether his project will be accepted or rejected.

I gather that the intention of the Government is, immediately after the conclusion of their Treaty with France, to negotiate similar Treaties with other Powers, the combined effects of which will be, by the accumulation of exceptions, to virtually supersede the present tariff, and thus enable the Government to place their commercial system more in harmony with those of their chief markets of supply and demand, by the introduction of a new code, for which a basis will have been provided by the above-mentioned Treaties.

No. 4.

Mr. Lytton to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received June* 30.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, June* 18, 1866.

THE reply of the French Government to the project of a Commercial Treaty, which was forwarded to Paris by M. Bourrée, and referred to in my despatch of the 19th ultimo, has not yet reached Lisbon.

M. Cazal Ribeiro has informed me that, as soon as this Treaty has been signed, it is his intention to place Count Lavradio in full possession of the sentiments and intentions with which this Government desires to enter into negotiations with the Government of Her Majesty, for the conclusion of a similar Treaty with England, both in respect of the concessions which Portugal is prepared to make, and those which she is anxious to obtain. Count Lavradio will be instructed, at the same time, to place himself in communication with your Lordship upon this subject, with a view to the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty, upon the basis indicated in the proposed instructions to his Excellency.

M. Cazal Ribeiro, on giving me this information, added the assurance that he is not only most anxious to bring to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion the negotiations which, he was in hopes, it would soon be possible to open with Her Majesty's Government for this purpose; but also that the Portuguese Government are prepared to make to England very much larger concessions than they had been disposed to make directly to France. In the first place, he said, because the maximum of consideration is due to the interests of our oldest political ally, and largest commercial market; and secondly, because the concessions made to Portugal by France are too insignificant to call for any large equivalent on our part. And although we are willing to reduce our import duties, and even desirous of reducing them considerably lower than the line of reduction traced by the Treaty now negotiating with France, yet we prefer to give to that reduction the character of a concession to England rather to any other Power.

I replied that I was greatly pleased to learn that the Portuguese Government were so liberally disposed. But I observed that the English tariff was already at a minimum as regards import duty, and the English market, both of supply and demand, already figures at a maximum in Portuguese commerce. In view of these facts, I did not see how Portugal could expect from England larger equivalents for the reduction of her own highly protective, and in some respects almost prohibitive tariff, than those which she obtained from France, a Power which has yet a commerce to create with Portugal.

His Excellency, thereupon, referred to our alcoholic test, and after dwelling upon the vexatious and unfavourable conditions to which the Portuguese wines are thereby subjected, the dubious accuracy of the test, and the inconvenience involved by its application, he observed that, he could not doubt that if there were but a will there would soon be a way to substitute for this precaution some arrangement less injurious to the Portuguese exporter; and he was in hopes that Portugal would be able to offer concessions of such magnitude, in favour of English imports, as an equivalent for the removal of this test, as would induce Mr. Gladstone to entertain the will. In that case, his appreciation of the unequalled skill and science of Her Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer assured him that the way would be discovered.

I remarked to his Excellency, that the removal of the alcoholic test would, I apprehended, throw out of gear the whole existing machinery for the levy of Excise duties in England. This part of our fiscal system, which concerns our internal economy, and possibly arranged in connection with social even more than financial considerations, could not, I feared, be discussed exclusively from the point of view assumed by his Excellency, or merely in reference to the extent to which it may indirectly affect a single import. The total value of the commerce between Great Britain and Portugal, though comparatively a large item in Portuguese, is a very small item in English revenue; but if the alcoholic test were abolished, English dealers in spirits might probably find it worth their while to import from this country wines highly charged with alcohol, for the purpose of extracting from them the brandy which would thus have evaded the excise duty on spirits, and so defrauding the Government by selling it at a cheap price for home consumption, I could not therefore encourage his Excellency to expect the abolition of the alcoholic test.

I then asked M. Cazal Ribeiro if this Government would be disposed to remove the present export duty on rags. He replied that he was himself much in favour of a comprehensive reduction of all protective duties but that he could not at present indicate the intentions of the Government with regard to any particular duties the reduction or abolition of which must be the subject of negotiation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RT. LYTTON.

No. 5.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Lytton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 2, 1866.

I APPROVE the language which you held to M. Cazal Ribeiro respecting commercial relations between this country and Portugal as reported in your despatch of the 18th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 6.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 20.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July* 12, 1866.

WITH reference to my despatch to Lord Clarendon of May 19th, on the subject of the Commercial Treaty between France and Portugal, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that this Treaty was signed this evening by M. Bourrée and M. Cazal Ribeiro.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RT. LYTTON.

No. 7.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 3.)

(Extract.) *Lisbou, Jnly* 19, 1866.

IN acknowledging the receipt of Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 2nd instant, approving the language held by me to M. Cazal Ribeiro on the subject of commercial relations between England and Portugal, as reported to his Lordship in my despatch of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to state that in the course of some conversation which I had with him a few days ago, the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs again adverted with much eagerness to this subject.

His Excellency informed me that, having now concluded the Commercial Treaty with France, he should lose no time in placing Count Lavradio in full possession of the views with which the Portuguese Government is desirous of negotiating, with that of Her Majesty, a similar but more comprehensive Convention.

He renewed to me the assurance that himself and his colleagues are ready to make to England concessions very much more copious and important than those now made to France, by virtue of the Treaty just signed with that Power; provided only, that Her Majesty's Government could be induced, in return for such concessions, to relieve the English import of Portuguese wines from the heavy disadvantage under which it is now placed by the application of the alcoholic test. This he declared to be a matter of paramount importance to Portugal, and whilst, on the one hand, he could not doubt that Her Majesty's present Government would not be less willing than its predecessors had been to secure those concessions which he was disposed to offer in favour of English imports; on the other hand, he was in hopes that it might be better able than the late Ministry to do this, by according in return the one concession which he asked on behalf of Portugal.

I told his Excellency that I could give no encouragement to that expectation; I had, I said, on previous occasions, pointed out to him what I conceived to be the objections likely to be entertained in England to the abolition of the alcoholic test; and, since doing so, I had been informed that the opinion which I then expressed was in conformity with that of Her Majesty's Government. Those objections could not, I apprehended, be materially changed by any change of Ministry, and I was unable, as yet, to anticipate any substitute for the alcoholic test, whereby those objections could be substantially satisfied.

M. Cazal Ribeiro admitted that they were not unreasonable. He was, however, persuaded that with good will some means might be devised for emancipating, from its present unfavourable conditions, the English import of Portuguese wines, without thereby injuriously affecting the levy of the English excise duty on spirits. He conjured me to think the subject over more maturely, and to recommend it to the favourable and friendly consideration of your Lordship.

No. 8.

Count Lavradio to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 16.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, August 16, 1866.*

ALLOW me to renew in writing the proposal which, by order of my Government, I had the honour of submitting to your Excellency verbally on the 6th instant, namely, that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, being convinced that the Treaty of Commerce concluded on the 3rd of July, 1842, between their Most Faithful and Britannic Majesties, could not satisfy the present just requirements of the commerce of the two respective States, I had been authorized by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to propose to that of Her Britannic Majesty a revision of the aforesaid Treaty, or rather the substitution of a new Treaty upon wider bases, and, as far as possible, more approximating to the principles of free trade.

If the proposal for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce of 1842, or the substitution of another be accepted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I am authorized to declare to your Excellency that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is prepared (in consideration of a just equivalent on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government) to make considerable modifications in the duties paid at the Portuguese Custom Houses on various natural and industrial productions of Great Britain. Inclosed your Excellency will find a statement of the principal British productions upon which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is disposed to modify the importation duties.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty is also prepared to abandon the protective system of navigation, and to suppress the differential duties of flag in indirect commerce. It being understood that these two great concessions can only be made in consideration of compensating equivalents on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

This is not the proper occasion to enter into a circumstantial consideration as to what equivalents the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty may think it has a right to propose as an exchange for the concessions it offers; but perhaps it will not be out of place to repeat two observations which I have already had the honour of submitting verbally to your Excellency's judgment, with the necessary explanations.

That as wine is the most important production of Portugal, His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will be liberal in its concessions if Her Britannic Majesty's Government will agree to reduce the duty on wines, and, above all, to substitute for the alcoholic scale, as the basis of that duty, another more just, and, allow me to say, more conformable to the true economical principles and interests of the commerce of the two nations.

What I have just had the honour of stating to your Excellency appears to me sufficient to enable Her Britannic Majesty's Government to decide whether it will accept or not the proposal for a negotiation for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce of 1842, and for the substitution of another in its place. If, however, before deciding, your Excellency should require any explanations, I shall be happy to have the honour of submitting them in writing, or verbally, as your Excellency may determine.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Statement of the Productions upon which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is disposed to reduce the Importation Duties.

(Translation.)

Horses.

Mules.

Articles, not specified, of morocco or other leathers, including mounting and trimmings, and excepting saddlery.

Unspun wool, dyed.

Tulle and lace of wool, or hair of one or more colours.

Merinoes of one colour.

„ of colours.

Merino shawls of one or more colours.

Lace work and galoons of wool or of pure hair, with a mixture of 10 per cent. or less of silk in the quantity of threads.

Lace work and galoons of wool or of hair, with a mixture of flax, hemp, or cotton.
Woollen textures made up.
Silk, spun and unspun, unbleached, white or (slightly) blued.
Dyed silks.
Sowing silks, unbleached, white, or dyed.
Pure silk textures, plain.
„ „ worked.
Ribbons of silk, pure or mixed (exclusive of the cards or reels on which they are rolled).
Velvets of silk, pure or mixed.
Plush „ „
Mixed silk textures.
Silk with threads of wool, hair, or others, but the woollen threads or hair threads predominating in quantity over the others (of flax, cotton, &c.), when in the total number of the threads of the texture the number of the threads does not exceed 5 per cent.
Silk with threads of flax, hemp, cotton, or others, the threads of flax, cotton, or hemp predominating over the threads of wool or hair,
Lace work and galoons of silk, pure and mixed.
Silk textures made up.
Lace work and galoons of cotton.
Cotton textures made up.
Threads of flax or hemp, unbleached, white, or coloured.
Textures for sails of any kind, unbleached or white.
Lace work and galoons of flax or hemp.
Textures of flax or hemp made up.
Frames and mouldings in entire squares or in pieces
Wooden furniture fitted up or not.
Wooden goods not specified.
Iron goods not specified.
Works in iron, forged or sheet, in the rough, polished, painted, japanned, &c.
Works in copper, pure or in connection with any other kind, bronzes, &c.
Jewellery, gold and silver work, and plated work.
Tools, instruments, and utensils.
Instruments and utensils of glass, crystal, or earthenware.
Prepared perfumery of any kind.
Riding carriages.
Ladies' hats and head-dresses.
Shoes. Brushes. Umbrellas.
Small wooden articles.
Articles for writing, drawing, and painting.
Card-board. Games of all kinds.
Bird-cages. Artificial flowers.
Salt fish. Porcelain. Fayence ware.
Paper. Chemicals.

No. 9.

Lord Stanley to Count Lavradio.

M. le Ministre, *Foreign Office, August* 21, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 16th instant, communicating a proposal from your Government for the substitution for the Treaty of July 3, 1842, of a new Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Portugal, upon wider bounds and more in accordance with the principles of free trade; but upon condition of concessions being granted by this country in favour of certain articles of Portuguese produce.

Her Majesty's Government will not fail to give every consideration to the terms of the proposal of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and after consultation with the proper departments I shall lose no time in addressing to your Excellency a further communication upon this important question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 10.

Lord Stanley to Count de Rilvas.

M. le Comte, *Foreign Office, September 7, 1866.*

I HAVE only within the last few days learnt the opinion of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade on the proposal of the Portuguese Government, communicated to me by Count Lavradio in his note of the 16th ultimo, for the negotiation of a new Treaty of Commerce between this country and Portugal, and I hasten to place you in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

Her Majesty's Government are sensible of the importance of a development of the trade between this country and Portugal, and are gratified at finding that the Portuguese Government have had their attention directed to the subject. They are of opinion that a reduction in the present high Customs Tariff of Portugal would have a powerful effect in encouraging trade, and would be very beneficial to both countries; and it seems to them that the Portuguese Government would do well to make the necessary reductions in their own interest, and without reference to any action on the part of this country.

The experience of recent years tends, as you will perceive from the inclosed Memoranda,* to show that the reduction of exorbitant import duties leads directly to increased trade and increased revenue; and Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that Portugal, like other countries, would find her advantage in the adoption of a less restrictive commercial policy.

I would beg especially to point to the results which have followed the adoption of a reduced scale of duties by France, and to the great stimulus which has been given to the industry of that country, as shown by the large increase in her exports since the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty with the United Kingdom in 1860. That increase seems to be due more to the reduction of the restrictive Tariff of France herself, than to the advantages which she obtained from the reductions made at the same time in the Tariff of this country, for the reductions made by this country were of a general character, and applied equally to the productions of all the world, and not simply to those of France; yet it has been in France, and in other countries which like France have reduced their own Tariffs, that the especial advantage of those general reductions has been reaped. While the trade between the United Kingdom and France has increased 87 per cent., and the trade between the United Kingdom and Belgium has increased 71 per cent., the increase of British trade with Portugal has been no more than 47 per cent.

Yet it will be observed that the reductions in the British Tariff of 1860 were not made in favour of French produce alone, but were applied to that of all countries, including Portugal; and it will be seen from the inclosed Memorandum† that they were of a nature calculated to stimulate and encourage that which Count Lavradio described as the most important of her productions, viz., wine.

If, therefore, the reduction by one country of duties falling on the produce of another is to be called a concession, it appears that this country has conceded in advance what Portugal might fairly claim from her on the basis of reciprocity.

It now rests with Portugal to meet that advance, and by reducing her own high Tariff and encouraging British trade, to secure to herself a fuller measure of the advantages which the reduction of the British duties has conferred upon foreign countries. It is in a great degree owing to her failure to take this step that she has not reaped a larger measure of benefit from the reduction of the British wine duty. The laws of commerce teach us that the encouragement of imports leads to a reciprocal increase of exports, and the experience of recent years fully confirms the truth of this doctrine.

The striking results, as regards the progress of trade, of the Tariff reduction carried out by the Governments of the United Kingdom and of France, are exhibited in the inclosed Memorandum,‡ but as regards the article of wine, I have to observe that the wine growers, among other classes of producers, have undoubtedly experienced a great advantage from the enhanced demand for French produce which has followed the enhanced consumption in France of foreign produce. It is to this general cause, quite as much as to the particular reduction in the rate of the British wine duties, that the great increase in the importation of French wines into this country may be attributed.

These considerations would lead to the conclusion that it is now rather the interest of Portugal to reduce her own import duties than the interest of this country to enter into a Treaty of Reciprocity with her. England, indeed, has already done her part. Since 1842 she has, as will be seen from the inclosed Memorandum,§ without asking

* Inclosures 1, 2, and 3 in No. 10.
† Inclosure 4 in No. 10.
‡ Inclosure 5 in No. 10.
§ Inclosure 6 in No. 10.

for any corresponding concessions, reduced or taken off all duties from most of the articles which Portugal does or might export, and has reduced them very considerably upon that which forms the staple of her produce. Nevertheless, if it should appear probable that the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty will facilitate the measures which the Portuguese Government appears to have in view, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to entertain the proposal.

The point upon which the Portuguese Government appears to be most anxious is the alteration of the system upon which the wine duties are now charged. The duty now in force in this country presses, or appears to press, more heavily on Spanish and Portuguese than on French wines. The great bulk of the wine imported from the Peninsula is of a greater alcoholic strength than 26 degrees, and is therefore chargeable with a rate of duty two and a-half times as high as that paid upon wines below that limit, that is to say, upon a large proportion of the French, German, and other wines of moderate strength, and the Portuguese Government appears to desire an alteration in the system which may redress what they consider a grievance to Portugal.

There is, however, reason to believe that the difference in the strength of the wines which reach this country arises quite as much from the admixture of spirit with pure wine in greater or less proportions, as from the variations in the natural strength of the wines themselves; and the information which Her Majesty's Government have received, is to the effect that a large proportion of the wines of Portugal contain less than 26 per cent. of alcohol, and would be inadmissible into this country at the shilling duty if sent without the addition of spirit in unnecessary quantities.

The Report contained in a Parliamentary paper,* of which I inclose a copy, shows that the average strength of a considerable number of specimens of port wine, in its natural state, was only 23·5 degrees. If this information is correct it would seem that the Portuguese wine merchants have, to a great extent, the remedy in their own hands, and that by altering the system upon which they now prepare wine for the English market they might obtain admission for a large proportion of their produce at the same low rate of duty as is charged upon the lighter wines of France.

I would beg to call your attention to the growing taste for light wines in this country and to the increasing demand for low priced wines. Ten years ago the average price in bond of the French wines imported into this country was about double that of the Portuguese wines, it is now only about two-thirds of the price of Portuguese wines. The average price of the French wine has fallen from 12*s.* or 13*s.* per gallon to about 4*s.*, while the price of Portuguese wine is about 6*s.*, or nearly the same as it was in 1854. The reduction of the duty has, in the one case, been followed by the importation of a lower class of wines, while, in the other case, it would seem that no effort has been made to introduce such lower wines, though the success which has attended the experiment, in the case of France, might have induced Portugal to try it also.

The advantages which France appears to have obtained for her wines in the English market seem, therefore, to be due, in the first place, to the liberal commercial policy by which she has encouraged imports and thus given a stimulus to her own exports, and in the second place, to the manner in which she has met the demand which has sprung up amongst us for lighter and lower priced wines; and it appears to be, to a very great extent, in the power of Portugal herself, by following the example of France, to secure the same advantages.

As regards the present alcoholic test, I have to point out that any concession which Her Britannic Majesty might make in this matter, must, in accordance with Her obligations under Treaty as well as with the established principles of this country, be made equally to other countries as to Portugal. The reduction of the duty, or the alteration of the limit of the test, therefore, would be as favourable to the stronger French as to the stronger Portuguese wines.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

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* Inclosure 7 in No. 10.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Memorandum respecting British Commerce, Navigation, and Finance, before and since the Adoption of Free Trade and the Repeal of the Navigation Laws.

THE following statements are intended to exhibit the progress of British commerce, navigation, and revenue during recent years, and to illustrate the results of the adoption by Great Britain of a system of commercial freedom, and the repeal of the Navigation Laws.

Whilst the increase of productive power and other causes have, without doubt, materially operated in effecting the vast development indicated in this Memorandum, these resources must have remained in a great degree unprofitable had the former restrictions on British trade and navigation been still maintained.

Exports and Imports. Official values.

The *official* value of British and Foreign and Colonial exports and imports *combined* were as follows, in the years 1842, 1853, 1863, 1864, and 1865 respectively :—

	£		£
1842	179,095,088	1864	496,067,717
1853	365,171,537	1865	545,873,160
1863	485,027,040		

Imports. Official values.

Of these amounts the *official* values of the *imports* were—

	£		£
1842	65,253,286	1864	175,961,690
1853	123,099,313	1865	181,806,048
1863	171,913,852		

Exports. Official values.

During the same years the corresponding values of the exports of British and Irish and Foreign and Colonial merchandise were—

	£		£
1842	113,841,802	1864	322,106,027
1853	242,072,224	1865	363,067,112
1863	313,113,188		

Official value of Exports of British and Irish manufactures, &c.

Of these amounts the official value of the proportion of exports of British and Irish manufactures, &c., was—

	£		£
1842	100,255,380	1864	267,150,982
1853	214,327,452	1865	301,612,902
1863	258,198,551		

Imports. Real value.

The *real* value of British imports can only be ascertained since the year 1854. In that year they amounted to 152,389,053*l.*, whilst in 1863 they had increased to 248,980,942*l.*, in 1864 to 274,863,924*l.*, and in 1865 to 271,134,969*l.*

Exports. Real value.

The *real* values of the exports from the United Kingdom in the years 1854, 1863, 1864, and 1865 were—

	£		£
1854	115,821,092	1864	212 588,239
1863	196,902,409	1865	218,858,316

The real values of these exports cannot be given previously to 1854, as such values of Foreign and Colonial merchandise were not ascertained until that year.

Real value of Exports of British and Irish manufactures.

The *real* value of *exports* of British and Irish manufactures during the years 1842, 1853, 1863, 1864, and 1865 respectively, was—

	£		£
1842	47,381,023	1864	160,449,053
1853	98,933,781	1865	165,862,402
1863	146,489,768		

The immense development of this branch of our commerce during recent years will be more readily appreciated when it is remembered that the figures for the year 1842 are but little in excess of the average value of our exports during the thirty preceding years.

Real value of Exports of Foreign and Colonial produce.

In the years 1854, 1863, 1864, and 1865 the *real* values of our exports of Foreign and Colonial merchandise were—

	£		£
1854	18,636,366	1864	52,139.186
1863	50,300,067	1865	52,995,914

Imports of articles of consumption.

The quantities of the various principal articles of food below mentioned, and n admitted duty free, were as follows for the respective periods :—

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Horned cattle .. No.	Prohibited	125,253	150,898	231,733	283,271
Sheep .. .. „		259,420	430,788	496,243	914,170
Bacon and hams .. Cwts.	8,355	205,667	1,877,813	1,069,390	713,346
Butter .. .. „	175,197	403,289	986,708	1,054,617	1,083,717
Eggs .. .. No.	89,548,747	123,450,678	266,929,680	335,298,240	364,013,040
Rice .. .. Cwts.	511,414	1,504,629	3,070,292	3,187,650	1,941,580

The quanties *retained for consumption* of the following articles, which are still subje to Customs duties, were—

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cocoa .. .. lbs.	2,246,569	3,997,198	3,712,287	4,171,142	4,286,635
Coffee .. .. „	28,519,646	36,983,122	32,762,995	31,589,597	30,748,349
Sugar, raw .. .. Cwts.	3,868,437	7,272,833	9,202,524	9,189,127	10,187,146
Tea .. .. lbs.	37,355,911	58,834,087	85,183,283	88,637,199	97,921,944
Tobacco, unmanufactured „	22,013,146	29,348,598	36,751,173	37,189,856	38,341,644
Wine .. .. Galls.	*4,815,222	6,813,830	10,422,105	11,456,531	12,061,386

Real value of Exports of most important articles of British manufacture.

The *declared* or *real* values of the more important articles of British manufactu exported during the same years are as follows :

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
	£	£	£	£	£
Apparel, haberdashery and millinery	1,143,270	6,923,190	7,169,975	7,376,970	7,653,706
Cotton yarn	7,771,464	6,895,653	8,019,954	9,083,239	10,351,049
„ goods	13,907,884	25,817,249	39,424,010	45,799,090	46,903,796
Earthenware and porcelain ..	555,430	1,338,370	1,334,275	1,422,014	1,442,934
Hardware and cutlery	1,398,487	3,665,051	3,826,784	4,334,273	4,334,273
Leather and leather wares ..	400,927	1,578,595	2,319,765	2,408,306	2,462,100
Linen yarns	1,025,551	1,154,977	2,535,728	2,991,969	2,505,497
„ manufactures	2,346,749	4,758,432	6,509,970	8,172,813	9,155,358
Machinery	554,653	1,985,536	4,365,023	4,848,592	5,213,530
Iron and steel	2,457,717	10,845,422	13,111,477	13,310,484	13,451,445
Tin plates	363,685	1,181,069	1,311,850	1,263,246	1,482,766
Silk, thrown and manufactured ..	590,189	2,044,361	2,229,591	2,214,927	2,177,285
Woollen yarn	637,305	1,456,786	5,065,432	5,417,377	5,424,047
„ manufactures	5,185,045	10,172,182	15,518,842	18,533,497	20,102,259

Notwithstanding the great increase here indicated with regard to British Imports an Exports, it must be borne in mind that few countries have yet comprehensively adopte a liberal commercial policy, and that, consequently, the measures in that direction, whic have already been for some years fully applied by Great Britain, cannot be said to enjo the conditions necessary to the complete development of the system.

Navigation.

The tonnage of British and Foreign vessels which entered and cleared in the United Kingdom *with cargoes*, in the years 1842, 1853, 1863, 1864, and 1865 respectively, was—

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	5,415,821	9,064,705	15,263,047	16,409,413	17,413,643
Foreign	1,930,983	6,316,456	7,762,116	7,065,471	7,572,202
Total	7,346,804	15,381,161	23,025,163	23,474,484	24,985,845

Coasting trade.

The coasting tonnage of the United Kingdom has likewise increased greatly, not withstanding the severe competition of the Inland Railway Carrying Trade, as is shown by the accompanying figures of the tonnage of British and Foreign vessels engaged *with cargoes* in the coasting trade of the United Kingdom :—

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	10,785,450	12,820,745	17,465,635	17,350,579	18,150,649
Foreign	None	None	81,897	66,107	77,705
Total	10,785,450	12,820,745	17,547,532	17,416,686	18,228,354

* The importation of wine in 1842 was unusually small, the average importation from 1840 to 1848 having been nearly 6,500,000 gallons.

Vessels, built, &c.

The tonnage of vessels built and registered in the United Kingdom in the years 1842, 1853, 1863, 1864, and 1865 was—

	1842.	1853.	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Sailing-vessels	116,213	154,956	253,036	272,499	235,555
Steam-vessels	13,716	48,215	107,951	159,374	179,649
	129,929	203,171	360,987	431,873	415,204

In addition to the above, the following amount of foreign tonnage was registered in the United Kingdom :—

1842.	1853.	1862.	1864.
Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
None	30,073	74,629	128,761

Registered tonnage.

The total registered tonnage of the United Kingdom was in the same years—

	Tons.		Tons.
1842	2,990,849	1864*	5,627,500
1853*	4,030,204	1865*	5,760,309
1862*	4,934,400		

The *effective* power of steam-vessels being so largely superior to that of sailing-vessels, lends considerable importance to the following figures of the steam tonnage on the register for the United Kingdom in the years 1851 and 1865 respectively :—

	Tons.
1851	186,687
1865	823,533

Customs Revenue.

The revenue produced by the Customs has been well sustained, notwithstanding the great reductions effected in our Tariff since 1842. In that year almost every article imported was liable to a Customs duty, and the list of Tariff denominations amounted to many hundreds, whilst at present about twelve leading articles alone are taxed on importation.

The gross Customs revenue, after deducting drawbacks, &c., amounted in the following years to—

	£		£
1842	22,523,513	1864-65	22,527,573
1853	22,515,913	1865-66	21,302,239
1863-64	23,234,356		

During the same intervals the excess of reduction of Customs duties above the amount imposed was—

	£		£
1843-53	10,166,749	1854-63	4,458,166

The reduction in the same branch in the years 1864, 1865, and 1866, is, for each year respectively—

	£
1864	1,744,384
1865	2,214,981
1866	477,000
Total	4,436,365

The amount of additional Customs duties imposed during the same period was only 1,576*l.*, arising from the increase in 1865 of the duty on sugar-cane juice for assimilative purposes.

The actual excess of reduction for the whole of the three years was therefore 4,434,789*l.*

Thus during the whole interval the Customs duties have been reduced by 19,059,704*l.*, or more than four-fifths of the whole Customs revenue in 1842 ; the revenue produced exhibiting a decrease of merely 1,469,076*l.*

Excise Revenue.

The gross amount of the duties of Excise in the years 1842, 1853, 1863, and 1864 were—

	£		£
1842	14,616,083	1864-65	19,428,324
1853	16,303,237	1865-66	19,818,162
1863-64	18,207,000		

* The figures for these years include the registered tonnage of the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, the amount of which may be estimated at about 100,000 tons.

The relative additions and diminutions during the same periods were—

	£	
1842–53	2,486,000	Reduced.
1854–63	1,226,000	Imposed.
Excess of reduction of Excise duty	1,260,000	
Reduction, 1864–65	95.000	
Total	1,355,000	Reduced.

Thus, notwithstanding the various reductions of Excise duties, amounting for the whole of the above period to 1,355,000*l.*, the revenue obtained in 1865 from this branch of the public service had increased by 4,812,241*l.* over the amount for the year 1842.

Total Revenue of the United Kingdom.

The total gross receipts of revenue of the United Kingdom during the three years were as follows :—

	£		£
1842	52,763,147	1864–65	70,318,437
1853	57,535,215	1865–66	67,812,292
1863–64	70,208,964		

The gross revenue had therefore increased during the aggregate period from 1842 to 1865–66, 15,049,145*l.*, and that this increase was not due to augmented taxation is made evident by the following statement :—

Excess of Total Amount of Customs, Excise, and other Taxation Repealed over the Amount Imposed during the periods 1842-53, 1854-63, and 1864-66.

	£
1842–53	7,175,986
1854–63	4,407,966
Excess of diminution	11,583,952
„ „ 1864–66	9,761,789
Total excess of diminution	21,345,741

or about 40 per cent. of the whole amount of the revenue of 1842.

Expenditure.

The expenditure of Great Britain, which amounted in 1842 to 55,223,874*l.* was, in 1853, 55,769,252*l.*, in 1863-64, 67,056,286*l.*, in 1864-65, 66,466,206*l.*, and in 1865-66 65,914,357*l.*

National Debt.

In 1842 the amounts of the unredeemed funded and of the unfunded debt were respectively—

	£
Funded	773,068,340
Unfunded	18,182,100
Total	791,250,440

In 1853—

	£
Funded	761,622,704
Unfunded	17,742,500
Total	779,365,204

In 1863—

	£
Funded	777,429,224
Unfunded	13,136,000
Total	790,565,224

In 1865—

	£
Funded	775,768,295
Unfunded	10,742,500
Total	786,510,795

And on the 31st March, 1866—

	£
Funded	773,313,229
Unfunded	8,187,700
Total	781,500,929

The whole amount of the funded and unfunded debt stands at present, therefore, at 9,749,511*l.* less that the amount which it represented in 1842.

W. M. B.

Board of Trade, June 28, 1866.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Memorandum exhibiting the Progress of some of the most important Branches of French Industry since the Conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce with Great Britain in 1860.

FRENCH COMMERCE, 1859—64.

IT was loudly and constantly urged by the French Protectionists that the Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and France, in 1860, would, by inundating the French market with British manufactures, effect the destruction of some of the national industries of France.

The extent of the difference between the thus anticipated and the actual results, will be broadly shown by the following statements, the figures of which are *entirely obtained from the French official returns.*

It may be premised that, for general purposes of demonstration, one of the best indications of the prosperity of a national branch of industry is the increased extent to which the products of that branch of production are exported, as well as that of the importation of raw material, in cases where the manufacture is not incident to an article of native produce.

It may also be assumed that the extinction of exportation must generally precede the cessation of production for home consumption.

Judged by these, the only true standards applicable to such a question, we find conclusive evidence of the complete unsoundness of the Protectionist doctrine, whether we examine the aggregate or the special exports of France before and since the conclusion of the Treaty in question.

The total value of exports from France of objects of French manufacture generally during the period from 1859 to 1864 have been as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	2,266,400,000	1862	2,242,700,000
1860	2,277,100,000	1863	2,642,600,000
1861	1,926,300,000	1864	2,924,200,000

Representing an increase of 657,800,000 francs for the year 1864, as compared with the first year of the period, whilst a glance at the Return shows how little spasmodic is the character of the increase.

If we examine some of the constituent items of the above statement, the Return is no less satisfactory to those industrial interests of France which it was presumed were most exposed to injury by the Treaty.

With regard, first, to the French textile manufactures, the figures appended will show that those branches, viz., cotton, woollen and linen, of the industries, which were believed to be most vulnerable to free trade, and likely to suffer most from the action of the Treaty, have maintained not only a regular increase, but have, in certain cases, made a startling progress.

Cottons. Value of exports from France of woven cotton goods of French manufacture during the following years:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	67,200,000	1862	63,300,000
1860	69,600,000	1863	88,200,000
1861	56,400,000	1864	93,700,000

Being an increase of nearly 26,000,000 francs during a period of unexampled disturbance of the trade, and in face of the unprecedented obstacles arising from the American war.

Linens. The development of the export linen trade of France is also deserving of notice, especially under the circumstances of its existence in a country which must import, almost entirely, its supplies of the raw material from the two great flax-producing and linen manufacturing countries of Europe, viz., Great Britain and Belgium.

Value of exports from France of linen woven goods of French manufacture:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	15,400,000	1862	14,700,000
1860	15,400,000	1863	19,000,000
1861	14,900,000	1864	24,500,000

Showing an increase of more than 9,000,000 francs, or more than one-half.

The woollen industries of France, which it was held would be annihilated by the Treaty, have prospered, since 1860, in a most remarkable degree, the exports having absolutely almost doubled since that year, as is shown by the following statement.

Value of exports from France of woollen wovén goods of French manufacture:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	180,600,000	1862	221,700,000
1860	229,300,000	1863	293,600,000
1861	188,000,000	1864	355,900,000

It may be as well to mention that this industry had been almost stationary in France during the six preceding years.

Yarns.

The increase in the exportation of yarns is no less remarkable than that indicated with regard to the woven goods.

These are the amounts for the respective years:—

	Cotton and Woollen.	Hemp and Flax.		Cotton and Woollen.	Hemp and Flax.
	Francs.	Francs.		Francs.	Francs.
1859	6,900,000	1,000,000	1862	14,200,000	3,100,000
1860	10,300,000	2,300,000	1863	17,100,000	26,600,000
1861	7,600,000	1,600,000	1864	21.600,000	21,500,000

The above figures do not need comment as to the comparative effect of the Treaty on the French producers of yarns; the statement is most conclusive.

It is perhaps almost unnecessary to observe that, in the period under review, the prices of all the above articles have been unusually high, and have therefore tended to check the natural development of the trade.

Metal goods.

Instead of destroying the metallic industries of France, the Treaty has unquestionably tended to promote them. It must be borne in mind that France is by nature less endowed than probably any European country, with the necessary capability, as respects native material, of supporting foreign competition in this particular industry.

The exports of metal goods, excluding machinery, have been as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	43,700,000	1862	41,900,000
1860	45,700,000	1863	43,700,000
1861	39,700,000	1864	45,100,000

Of machinery the following have been the exports during the corresponding period:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	6,800,000	1862	8,300,000
1860	8,300,000	1863	7,500,000
1861	7,300,000	1864	9,500,090

In estimating the value of the above figures as indications of the progress of this trade, it may be remarked that the value of the exports for 1859 were very considerably above the average, in fact largely in excess of the export of any previous year.

Chemicals.

Notwithstanding the very extensive reductions effected by the French Tariff of 1860 on chemical products, the exportation of such articles of French manufacture has, by its large increase, triumphantly refuted the Protectionist prophecies.

These are the figures:—

Value of exports of chemicals of French manufacture—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	32,700,000	1862	54,400,000
1860	35,400,000	1863	49,300,000
1861	36,600,000	1864	54,400,000

Fish.

It will be doubtless well remembered that the question of the reduction of the French duties on fish created a memorable discussion, in which other than the simple commercial interests were involved, as it had been held that the prohibitory nature of the Tariff meant protection to the Imperial navy, as well as to the fishermen of France, The results of the reduction are here exhibited.

Value of French salted fish, &c., exported:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	11,500,000	1862	11,900,000
1860	8,800,000	1863	16,100,000
1861	13,000,000	1864	15,200,000

The amount exported in 1859 was unusually large,—a remarkable fact considering the variable nature of the fishing seasons.

It has here been most plainly shown how rotten was the foundation of the Protectionist doctrine, that French manufactures would go to the wall when subjected to the competition which would result from the Treaty. The issue, instead of destruction to the French manufactures, has been, by the removal of encumbrances (some of which, being indirect in their pressure, were not assignable with precision), to enlarge the extent to which France was able to meet competition, not only in her own, but actually in foreign markets, to an extent and with a rapidity that the most sanguine expectations could have hardly anticipated.

In conclusion, it may be observed that, since France inaugurated her Free Trade movement by the reduction of her Tariff on British manufactures consequent on the Treaty with Great Britain, her Government has, with the almost entire approval of the French nation, made constant efforts to establish similar relations with other countries.

Practically this may be regarded as the most satisfactory evidence of the result of the abolition by France of protective Customs duties; the figures above given show how sound the conclusion is.

If we proceed to examine the figures of the exportation from France to Great Britain of the articles in question the result is still more striking. Instead of the French market being inundated with British manufactures of these kinds, the amount exported from France to the United Kingdom has vastly increased, as the following figures will most plainly indicate.

Real value of the following articles of French manufacture exported from France to Great Britain in the years 1859-64:—

	1859.	1864.
	Francs.	Francs.
Woollens	39,178,000	98,512,000
Linens	3,331,000	3,103,000
Cottons..	5,742,000	12,671,000
Metal Goods	4,395,000	8,912,000
Yarns	406,000	8,842,000
Earthenware .. .. .. }	4,398,000	5,993,000
Glass, &c. .. .. .. }		
Fish, salted, &c.	1,061,000	3,213,000

Thus it has been most distinctly shown, not only that the industries which the Treaty was to annihilate have acquired a higher position than ever, but that the relations of those particular industries towards Great Britain have made a progress and assumed an importance unknown previously to the existence of the Treaty, to which it may be without hesitation be alleged they owe mainly the extraordinary development they have since attained.

W. M. B.

Board of Trade, April 1866.

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Memorandum.

BELGIAN COMMERCE: 1859—64.

THE following figures are taken from the Belgian Official Returns ("Tableau Général du Commerce de la Belgique avec les Pays Etrangers, 1864").

Exports.

("Commerce Spécial.")

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	413,300,000	1862	502,100,000
1860	470,300,000	1863	533,700,000
1861	453,600,000	1864	596,900,000

Representing an increase of 183,600,000 francs for 1864 as compared with 1859.

The value of the exports of woven cotton goods ("tissus de coton") was as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	14,133,000	1862	15,742,000
1860	16,409,000	1863	16,040,000
1861	13,733,000	1864	20,109,000

Showing an increase of 5,976,000 francs on the exports for the year 1859.

The exports of linen woven goods ("tissus de lin et de chanvre") were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	27,396,000	1862	29,132,000
1860	26,741,000	1863	33,097,000
1861	28,281,000	1864	41,061,000

Showing an increase of 13,665,000 francs.

The exports of woollen woven goods ("tissus de laine") were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	33 825,000	1862	38,184,000
1860	34,168,000	1863	41,480,000
1861	28,437,000	1864	42,590,000

Showing an increase of 8,765,000 francs on the exports for the year 1859.

The exports of yarns were as follows:—

Cotton and Woollen Yarns.

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	9,328,000	1862	14,789,000
1860	20,542,000	1863	17,366,000
1861	13,203,000	1864	28,800,000

Showing an increase of 19,472,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

Yarns of Hemp and Flax.

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	10.964,000	1862	15,146,000
1860	14,937,000	1863	19,067,000
1861	12,805,000	1864	24,720,000

Showing an increase of 13,576,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of machinery ("machines et mécaniques"*) were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	9,024,000	1862	19,296,000
1860	12,684,000	1863	22,105,000
1861	15,454,000	1864	21,571,000

Showing an increase of 12,547,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of iron,† of all kinds, were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	21,983,000	1862	24,231,000
1860	21,499,000	1863	25,964,000
1861	21,376,000	1864	36,097,000

Showing an increase of 14,114,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of steel were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	167,000	1862	369,000
1860	361,000	1863	336,000
1861	244,000	1864	258,000

Or an increase of 91,000 francs.

The exports of copper were as follows:—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	1,997,000	1862	4,581,000
1860	1,994,000	1863	3,047,000
1861	2,877,000	1864	3,308,000

Showing an increase of 1,311,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

* In cast iron, iron and steel, copper, and all other materials except wood.
† Iron ores not included.

The exports of chemical products were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	258,000	1862	462,000
1860	339,000	1863	832,000
1861	417,000	1864	617,000

Showing on increase of 359,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of vegetable fibres ("filaments végétaux") were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	21,866,000	1862	34,090,000
1860	26,336,000	1863	36,583,000
1861	28,361,000	1864	47,442,000

Showing an increase of 25,576,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of coal and coke were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	50,324,000	1862	52,913.000
1860	55,205,000	1863	50,535.000
1861	54,065,000	1864	57,076,000

Showing an increase of 6,752,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The export of skins ("peaux brutes") were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	20,134,000	1862	28,773,000
1860	31,407,000	1863	23,817.000
1861	26,125,000	1864	23,842,000

Showing an increase of 3,708,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of cattle ("bestiaux") were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	15,162,000	1862	13,851,000
1860	14,758,000	1863	17,734.000
1861	14,162,000	1864	19,230,000

Being an increase of 4,068,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

The exports of glass and glasswares ("verreries et cristalleries") were as follows :—

	Francs.		Francs.
1859	13,535,000	1862	10 839,000
1860	13,363,000	1863	12,547,000
1861	10,253,000	1864	14,054,000

Being an increase of 519,000 francs on the exports for 1859.

VALUE of Articles Exported from Belgium to Great Britain in 1859 and 1864.

	1859.	1864.		1859.	1864.
	Francs.	Francs.		Francs.	Francs.
Woollens	11,135,000	14,378,000	Copper	198,000	459,000
Linens	901,000	2,002.000	Chemical products ..	30,000	109,000
Cottons	292,000	2.760,000	Vegetable fibres ..	9,200,000	14,717,000
Yarns	6,924,000	19,747,000	Coal and Coke ..	3,000	24.000
Machinery	316,000	198,000	Skins, raw	145,000	419,000
Iron	588,000	2,987,000	Cattle	350,000	1,546,000
Steel	48,000	94,000	Glass, &c.	3,095,000	4,539.000

Inclosure 4 in No. 10.

Memorandum as to Effect of Reduction in Wine Duties.

THE duty on foreign wine was reduced from 5*s*. $9\frac{3}{10}$*d*. per gallon, to rates varying from 1*s*. to 2*s*. 6*d*. per gallon.

The advantage which the wine growers of the British colonies had previously enjoyed of a differential duty amounting to 2*s*. $10\frac{1}{2}\frac{3}{0}$*d*. per gallon, was taken away from them.

The duty on foreign spirits was reduced from 15*s*. to 10*s*. 5*d*., and that on British and Colonial spirits was increased from 8*s*. 1*d*. British (8*s*. 2*d*. Colonial), to 10*s*. British (10*s*. 2*d*. Colonial) per gallon.

The result has been that the consumption of wine in this country has increased from an average of 6,548,789 gallons in the three years preceding the reduction (1857-9) to

an average of 11,270,802 gallons in the last three years (1863–5); while the consumption of British spirits has fallen from an average of 23,747,245 gallons. to an average of 20,294,986 gallons per annum.

Inclosure 5 in No. 10.

Memorandum on Progress of Trade between England and France consequent on Tariff Reductions.

THE first effect of the reductions made by France and the United Kingdom respectively, was to produce a very small immediate increase in the imports from France to England, but a very large immediate increase in the exports from England to France.

The imports from France into the United Kingdom had amounted to 16,870,858*l.* in 1859, and rose in 1861 to no more than 17,826,646*l.*, or about 6 per cent.; but the exports from the United Kingdom to France, which in 1859 had amounted only to 9,561,956*l.*, rose in 1861 to 17,427,271*l.*, showing an increase of 82 per cent.

This large increase was chiefly owing to the alterations in the French Tariff which encouraged the British merchants to export a much greater quantity of merchandize to France. The necessity of paying for the merchandize so imported had in return the effect of greatly stimulating the native industry of France, so that in the year 1865 the importations of French produce and manufactures into the United Kingdom show an advance of 87 per cent. on those of 1859, the year preceding the Treaty.

Inclosure 6 in No. 10.

Memorandum as to Duties on Portuguese Imports into the United Kingdom.

Animals.—Free from the 19th March, 1846.

Copper Ore.—1*s.* per ton from 20th April, 1848. Free from June 4, 1853.

Cork.—Free from March 19, 1845.

Figs.—15*s.* 9*d.* per cwt., from 15th May, 1840. Reduced to 7*s.* per cwt. on 7th of March, 1860.

Oil, Olive.—Free from March 19, 1843.

Seed.—Ditto.

Onions.—1*d.* per bushel from 4th April, 1853. Free from March 7, 1860.

Oranges and Lemons.—2*s.* 7½*d.* to 7*s.* 10½*d.* per chest, or 75 per cent. *ad valorem.* Reduced June 11, 1853, to 8*d.* per bushel. Free from March 7, 1860.

Pyrites.—Free from March 19, 1845.

Wool.—Free from June 6, 1844.

Inclosure 7 in No. 10.

Copy of Reports with respect to the Wines of France and Switzerland; of the Rhine Provinces, Bavaria, Hungary, and Austria; of Spain and Portugal; and of Sicily and Italy.

[Presented to the House of Commons, April 29, 1862.]

No. 11.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Lytton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 8, 1866.

I INCLOSE for your information a copy of a note from the Portuguese Minister at this Court* relative to the desire of his Government to negotiate a new Treaty of Commerce with this country. Copies of the answer which has been returned to this communication, together with its inclosures, are likewise transmitted herewith.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

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* No. 8. † No. 10.

No. 12.

M. Rilvas to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 11.)

My Lord, *Portuguese Legation, London, September* 10, 1866.

I HAD the honour to receive your Excellency's note of the 7th instant on the subject of a proposal made by my Government for the negotiation of a new Treaty of Commerce between Portugal and the United Kingdom, as communicated to your Excellency on the 16th ultimo by His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister at this Court, and have lost no time in transmitting to my Government a copy of the same note.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RILVAS.

No. 13.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 1.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, September* 12, 1866.

THE other day M. Cazal Ribeiro, whom I happened to meet in society, informed me that he had just heard from Count Lavradio that your Lordship was of opinion that it would be impossible to commence the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal before next spring.

His Excellency said that he had received this intelligence with great disappointment, but that he still anxiously hoped that your Lordship might be induced to agree to the opening of such a negotiation at an earlier period, and, if possible, immediately.

He did not expect that the terms of the Treaty could be fully settled and agreed to, much less that the instrument itself could be signed by next spring; but it would, he said, greatly facilitate the means of the Portuguese Government to deal with the subject in a manner satisfactory to the Government of Her Majesty, if the negotiations could be opened at once, and a general agreement as to principles effected, before the discussion and approval of the Franco-Portuguese Treaty of Commerce by the Cortes of this country, which would assemble in the spring.

If the commencement of the negotiation were postponed till that period, the conduct of them would, he feared, be greatly hampered, and the conclusion of them considerably retarded. He, therefore, requested me to lose no time in bringing to the knowledge of your Lordship his anxieties on this point, and asked me to solicit your Lordship's consent to his suggestion that Sir A. Paget should bring with him, on his arrival here, full powers to negotiate this Treaty at Lisbon, with the assistance, if Her Majesty's Government thought fit, of some gentleman from the Board of Trade well experienced in dealing with the technical details of commercial subjects.

No. 14.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 1.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, September* 18, 1866.

LAST Monday, after receipt of your Lordship's despatch on the subject of the proposals made to your Lordship by the Portuguese Minister in London for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, I had some conversation with M. Cazal Ribeiro upon the same subject.

I found his Excellency apparently much pleased by the candour and conciliatory spirit of your Lordship's reply to the verbal inquiries of Count Lavradio, as reported to him by the Count, as also by the tone and general purport of your Lordship's written answer to the note in which the Portuguese proposals were on the 16th ultimo officially communicated to Her Majesty's Government.

Referring to the last paragraph of this note from your Lordship to Count de Rilvas, his Excellency said that he had no desire to obtain for Portugal commercial advantages not equally open to every other country. His wish was, if possible, to enable the Portuguese wine grower to compete with French and other exporters of wine to the English market, not on more favourable, but merely on equal terms. Only a few years ago by far the largest markets of supply for the consumption of wine in England were those of the Peninsula, but since the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty between France and England the consumption of French wines in England had increased to an extent with which it

was impossible for the wines of the Peninsula to compete on equal terms without some change in the application of the alcoholic test to these latter wines.

I expressed to his Excellency my strong opinion that the increased and increasing consumption of French wines in England was, in a great measure, due to a change of taste, and a growing preference for lighter and purer wines than those which have hitherto been supplied from the Portuguese markets.

M. Cazal Ribeiro replied, that he fully realized and admitted the important influence of this change of taste in favour of the lighter French wines. "But that," said he, "is a natural disadvantage to the Portuguese wine-grower of which he cannot complain, and which he must be prepared to meet and mitigate as best he can. All I contend for is, that this very fact renders it so much the more reasonable, that the Portuguese wine grower, who has now to meet a natural disadvantage, should ask to be relieved from the unnatural disadvantages by which it is heavily aggravated."

"Now you have," his Excellency continued, "two scales of alcoholic strength accompanied respectively by two rates of duty levied on the importation of wines. The first of these scales goes up to 26 degrees; and all wines falling within that scale pay only 1*s.* duty. The second scale is from 26 degrees up to 42 degrees, and represents a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon. Consequently, all wines which even by 1 degree, or half a degree, exceed in alcoholic strength the limit of the first scale (which stops at 26 degrees) are charged 2*s.* 6*d.* on the gallon; whereas all wines which, only by 1 degree or half a degree fall short of 26 degrees of alcoholic strength, just missing the scale on which the higher rate of duty is levied, pay only 1*s.* duty on the gallon. Thus, wine containing as much as 26 degrees of alcohol pays 1*s.* per gallon, and wine containing only half a degree more pays 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

"Well, if you will turn to the supplementary report of Mr. Ogilvie, inclosed in Lord Stanley's note to Count Lavradio, you will find that almost all the French wines contain less than 26 degrees of alcohol, and consequently fall under your lowest scale. Commenting upon this fact, Mr. Ogilvie observes (what I think is important to bear in mind), that 'from these results it will be seen, that the French wines which are commercially the most valuable are not always the most alcoholic' (p. 11 of Mr. Ogilvie's supplementary report).

"But the tables in which Mr. Bernard" (whose report is annexed to the same inclosure) "shows the average strength of the Peninsula wines, prove that these wines average an alcoholic strength from 27 degrees to 37 degrees, and must consequently fall under your highest scale of duty.

"'But,' it is argued, 'if the Portuguese wine grower wishes to escape this higher duty, he has only to produce a less highly alcoholized wine. By doing this he will adapt his produce, not only to the lower scale of duty, but also to the improved taste of the consumer; and thus secure a double advantage.'

"Well," continued his Excellency, "if the Portuguese wine grower can do this, I admit at once that he has (as Lord Stanley suggests) the remedy in his own hands. But can he do this?

"Let me call your attention to the letter of Mr. Harris, quoted by Mr. Bernard in his report upon Portuguese wines. Mr. Harris in forwarding to Mr. Bernard some specimens of a perfectly unadulterated Oporto wine thus writes:—'The two bottles of wine sent have been in my possession upwards of fifteen years; they are of the vintage of 1854, and are taken from two lots made at the same time in the French style, and without a drop of brandy. . . . . But the wine, though made in a good situation in the Alto Douro, and in a year remarkable for fine wines, was valued in London at about 8*l.* or 9*l.* per pipe, being considered excessively harsh, and inferior to the common low wines of France. The cost to the maker could not be less than 25*l.* to 30*l.* per pipe; so that, in a commercial point of view, the failure could scarcely have been more disastrous.'

"But this is not all. Mr. Bernard truthfully reports, what is in this country notorious, namely, that Portuguese wines generate a great increase of spirit in the 'tonel.' As an example of this, he cites the experience of Mr. Fladgate, who 'tried a sample of wine when drawn from the "lazar" or press in October 1860, and found it contained nearly 19 per cent. of spirit; in June 1861 the same wine, drawn from the "tonel," showed 22·8 per cent.'

"A still more significant illustration of the force of this natural and inevitable generation of alcohol by Portuguese wines is supplied by Mr. Bernard himself. The wine referred to by Mr. Harris, in the letter I have quoted, as being made without a drop of brandy, figures in Mr. Bernard's tabulated statement of the relative strength of Portuguese wines at an alcoholic strength of no less than 27·2°!

"So that, in fact, a Portuguese wine-grower might produce wine made without a drop of brandy in it, which wine, nevertheless, on coming out of bond in England, would

be found to contain *more* than the quantity of alcohol sufficient to render it liable to a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon, whilst, at the same time, so far as regards the English taste in wine, it could not successfully compete even with any of the low French wines, being much harsher and rougher in quality.

"Finally, I can safely affirm that while, on the one hand, the highest quality of French wines is not naturally more alcoholized than many of the lower qualities of these wines; on the other hand, Portuguese, and especially Oporto wines, of the highest quality, not only generate more natural alcohol, but require for their conservation and development, a greater admixture of alcohol than the lower class wines. Consequently, it must in fairness be admitted, that it is neither commercially nor chemically possible for the Portuguese wine grower to produce a marketable wine which shall not be more highly alcoholized than the wines of France."

Thus far, my Lord, I have endeavoured to report, as nearly as possible in his own words, the opinions and arguments of M. Cazal Ribeiro.

Perhaps your Lordship will not deem it altogether inappropriate to the formation of an opinion, as to the justice of these arguments, if I venture, in this place, to mention that I have at this moment in my possession some specimens of a port wine made on Mr. Forrester's principle, without any admixture of alcohol, and that this wine, which is now nearly two years old, is exceedingly rough and harsh, and certainly inferior in quality to the lowest class of Burgundy wines.

Having spoken to the above effect, M. Cazal Ribeiro proceeded to say that, in your Lordship's offer to entertain proposals for rendering possible the admission of Portuguese wines under the lower scale, he cordially and amply recognized the expression of a most friendly and practical disposition to consider this subject fairly and fully; that he was perfectly satisfied with that admission as an adequate basis for further negotiation, for the conciliatory and *bonâ fide* character of which, the fairness, impartiality, and conciliatory spirit already evinced by your Lordship were to him a sufficient guarantee. On his part, he assured me, there was no desire to ignore, or underrate, the practical difficulties in the way of a total abolition of the alcoholic test, nor would there be any attempt to ask for the impossible. What he did, indeed, hope to obtain, would be some practical arrangement which, without injuriously affecting the existing spirit duties, would enable a fair average of Portuguese wines to clear the bar of the 1*s.* scale, without falling under a 2*s.* 6*d.* duty, and thus place these wines on a commercial equality with those of France and Germany. Wines averaging in alcoholic strength beyond the limit, or even up to the extreme limit of the higher scale, he would willingly put out of the question as not being *bonâ fide* wines, nor should he urge on the consideration of Her Majesty's Government the adoption of any arrangement which could be clearly proved to involve any practical premium upon fraud. He conceived, however, that,—taking things as they now are,—the existing difference between the 2*s.* 6*d.* duty on wine, and the 10*s.* duty on spirit, would be insufficient to prevent the reduction of wines, imported under this duty, into spirit for home consumption, if such a result were not already rendered impracticable by other circumstances and commercial conditions, unconnected with the high rate of duty, now levied upon Portuguese wines,

As regards the possible diminution of revenue consequent upon the reduction of this duty, he said that, speaking off-hand, he believed the annual average of the total importation of Peninsular wines (Spanish and Portuguese) would probably be found not to exceed eight millions of gallons, if even it were so much. The admission of these wines under a 1*s.* duty would only cause a loss of revenue to the extent of 600,000*l.* But if against this loss you put the certainty of a large and immediate increase in the import itself, together with the stimulus which he doubted not would be given to a great number of British exports, by the reductions of import duty which Portugal on her part was prepared to make in return for this concession, the virtual result would probably be, not a loss, but, an increase of revenue.

I understood M. Cazal Ribeiro to add, that, in this hope, he was about to prepare some memoranda which would, as soon as possible, be communicated to your Lordship, in connection with a proposal which would, he trusted, be of a nature to be practically entertained.

In the meanwhile, his Excellency requested me to express to your Lordship the hope that (in view of the various considerations referred to in my preceding Despatch of the 12th instant) Sir Augustus Paget, who is expected to arrive here next month, might be furnished with full powers to continue and conclude the negotiations thus satisfactorily opened.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RT. LYTTON.

No. 15.

Memorandum.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by M. de Rilvas, October 6.)

L'ECHELLE alcoolique a été établie en Angleterre pour servir de base aux droits sur l'importation des vins, en vertu du Traité de commerce conclu en 1860 entre ce pays et la France. On connaît aujourd'hui l'histoire de ce Traité.

Les négociations entre les deux puissances durèrent pendant plusieurs années. Tantôt elles se compliquaient à cause des questions suscitées par l'interprétation et l'application des règles de la réciprocité; tantôt elles s'arrêtaient devant la résistance des intérêts créés sous l'égide du système protecteur; tantôt elles s'interrompaient en présence des événements politiques. Enfin les bases en furent arrêtées entre Mr. Gladstone et M. Michel Chevalier, et dès lors une vigoureuse impulsion fut donnée à la conclusion du Traité.

Le but principal de la France était d'obtenir une faveur spéciale pour ses vins. De son côté l'Angleterre, en échange de cette faveur, voulait obtenir au profit des produits de ses manufactures des réductions importantes sur les droits du tarif Français.

Le Traité fut effectivement signé et conclu à Paris, le 23 Janvier, 1860. L'Article 6 stipule ce qui suit:

"Sa Majesté Britannique s'engage aussi à proposer au Parlement de réduire immédiatement less droits à l'importation des vins Français à un taux, qui ne dépassera pas trois 3*s.* par gallon jusqu'au 1er Avril, 1861. A partir de cette dernière époque les droits d'importation seront réglés de la manière suivante:

"1. Sur les vins qui contiennent moins de quinze degrés d'esprit, type d'Angleterre, vérifiés par l'hydromètre de Sikes, le droit ne dépassera pas 1*s.* par gallon.

"2. Sur les vins, qui contiennent de 15 à 26 degrés, le droit ne dépassera pas un 1*s.* 6*d.* par gallon.

"3. Sur les vins qui contiennent de vingt-six à quarante degrés, le droit ne dépassera pas 2*s.* par gallon.

"4. Sur les vins en bouteilles le droit ne dépassera pas 2*s.* par gallon."

Dans leur rapport à l'Empereur, les Plénipotentiaires Français, M. Baroche et M. Rouher, assuraient que le droit de 1*s.* par gallon constituait la taxe normale pour les vins Français, et ils renchérissaient sur cette concession, la considérant comme un grand fait économique qui devait exercer la plus salutaire influence sur la richesse agricole de la France.

Le droit de 1*s.* par gallon constituait, en effet, la taxe normale pour les vins, qui, en raison de leur valeur et de l'importance de leur exportation à cette époque, devaient attirer plus particulièrement l'attention des négociateurs du Traité; mais il n'en était pas de même à l'égard de tous les vins Français, ni de la plupart d'entr'eux. Des expériences faites postérieurement, même dans les laboratoires Anglais, ont démontré que la force alcoolique de plusieurs de ces vins, y compris ceux de Château-Lafitte, pouvait excéder le 15 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve (type d'Angleterre), qui était la limite fixée dans le Traité pour le droit de 1*s.* La force alcoolique des vins Français n'avait pas été bien calculée, ou l'on n'avait point fait attention à ce que l'alcool se développe à la longue dans une fermentation lente, de sorte que le vin de Château-Lafitte, par exemple, qui deux ans après la vendange a à peine 14·8 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve, peut en avoir 16·5 pour cent quatre ans après.

L'inconvénient dont se plaignaient les producteurs Français fut promptement corrigé en Angleterre. L'échelle alcoolique fut altérée de façon que le droit de 1*s.* ne devait plus être appliqué aux vins contenant moins de 15 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve, mais bien à ceux qui en contenaient moins de 18 pour cent. Cependant, ce n'était pas encore assez pour exempter du droit le plus fort quelques vins Français, dont la force alcoolique dépassait ce degré. Les producteurs Français et les négociants Anglais, voyant que les espérances qu'ils avaient fondées sur l'altération de l'échelle, ne résistaient pas toujours à l'épreuve de l'hydromètre de Sikes, devaient naturellement réunir leurs efforts pour élever la limite du droit inférieur à un degré tel, qu'il ne pût excéder en aucun cas la force alcoolique des vins dont l'importation les intéressait.

Mr. Charles Cloney, au mois de Janvier 1862, écrivait ce qui suit:

"The operation of the alcoholic test in respect to the duty is somewhat anomalous, the duty upon the wine class A, containing not exceeding 18 per cent. of proof spirit, 1*s.* per gallon, but should it be one-tenth of a degree over 18 per cent., it becomes class B, and is charged an additional duty of 9*d.* per gallon. Class A is much too limited, and the present arrangement acts very prejudicially to the exclusion of many very good, pure, and cheap wines. There are varieties of the Burgundy, Rhone, and wines of the south of France, that being slightly over the class A, are chargeable with the duty of 1*s.* 9*d.* whilst

far more expensive wines pay only 1*s.* per gallon. It is understood that for some time past Government has been collecting statistics in the different wine-growing countries of Europe, in order to be satisfied as to the prudence of making a different regulation. A little common sense or practical knowledge is all that is wanting; in the interim the delay prevents the extension of business, and is a positive loss to the exchequer."

En effet, le Gouvernement Anglais avait envoyé des Commissaires techniques dans les principaux pays vinicoles de l'Europe, afin de procéder à une enquête sur la plus grande force alcoolique des vins de chacun de ces pays. Les examens auxquels procédèrent les Commissaires du Gouvernement Anglais, et les renseignements qu'ils cueillirent, démontrèrent avec la plus grande évidence que la force alcoolique des vins Français ne pouvait excéder 25 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve, tandis que celle des vins Portugais, à l'état où ils devaient et pouvaient être exportés, dépassait toujours ce degré.

Mr. R. A. Ogilvie, chargé de vérifier la plus grande force alcoolique des vins de France et de Suisse, s'adressa aux Départements Français dont les vins passaient pour être les plus alcooliques; car, ainsi qu'il le dit dans son Rapport, l'étude de ces vins était le but immédiat de sa mission. Les expériences faites par Mr. Ogilvie, et dont les résultats sont consignés dans les tableaux annexés à son compte-rendu, ont démontré que la force des vins les plus alcooliques de la France variait entre 15·4 et 23 ou 24 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve. C'est à peine si le vin d'Ermitage de la propriété de M. Monier (échantillon No. 24) et celui de St. Gilles, de la propriété de M. Pérouze (échantillon No. 26) ont présenté des forces alcooliques supérieures; le premier de 25·2 et le second de 27·2 pour cent. Mais le vin de M. Monier était de la récolte de 1850, et celui de M. Pérouze était également un vin vieux de plusieurs années (sundry years), et Mr. Ogilvie reconnaît que c'est le vin le plus alcoolique qu'on puisse rencontrer dans l'arrondissement de St. Gilles, et dans toute la France.

"The wines," dit-il, "produced at St. Gilles on the property of M. Pérouze, the député, are said to be the strongest grown in the district, and, indeed, amongst the strongest produced in any part of France. . . . This wine, with one exception, is the strongest red wine I was able to obtain in France, showing a strength of 27·2 per cent. of proof spirit."

On peut donc dire que tous les vins de commerce de France ne contiennent pas plus de 23 ou 24 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve, non-seulement parce que les vins qui font exception à cette règle sont d'une production très limitée et insignifiante, si on le considère sous le rapport de la production et de l'exportation d'un grand pays vinicole, mais encore parce que ces mêmes vins n'offriraient point une telle force, si la succession de plusieurs années ne l'eût point développée au moyen de la fermentation lente qui s'opère dans le fût, ainsi que le prouve l'expérience non démentie jusqu'à ce jour.

L'opinion générale des personnes intéressées en France dans la question de l'échelle alcoolique s'accorde avec le résultat des recherches de l'illustre Commissaire du Gouvernement Anglais. Voici ce que dit Mr. Ogilvie, dans son compte-rendu du 25 Novembre, 1861:—

"The present scale of duties on wine imported into the United Kingdom is a source of general complaint throughout France, chiefly owing to its unequal pressure on their wines, the finest and most valuable of which are admitted at the lowest rate while the less valuable kinds are so much more highly taxed. It appears to be the general idea, however, of parties interested in this question that 14 degrees of Gay-Lussac, as the limit of the 1*s.* duty, would be quite sufficient to admit the greatest bulk of the wines of France at that rate. The only exception I met with to that opinion was in the district of the Eastern Pyrenees, where they seemed to think that we should admit their wines at the strength to which they usually fortify them for exportation, which would amount to about 32 degrees of Sikes."

Or, 14 degrés de Gay-Lussac, d'après le tableau des équivalents, ou les réductions que Mr. Ogilvie considère comme les plus correctes, correspondent à 23 degrés de Sikes. Par conséquent, d'après l'opinion des personnes intéressées en France, à une seule exception dont on ne produit pas les fondements, il suffirait que la limite du droit de 1 shelling par gallon fût de 14 degrés de Gay-Lussac ou de 23 degrés de Sikes, pour que la majeure partie, ou la presque totalité des vins de France fussent admis en Angleterre avec cette taxe.

D'autre part, le rapport et les documents présentés au Parlement Anglais par Mr. Charles Bernard, montraient avec la même évidence qu'il ne suffisait point que la limite du droit de 1*s.* fût de 23° ou même de 26° de Sikes, pour que les vins du Portugal, à l'état où ils s'exportent pour l'Angleterre, ne fussent point soumis à une taxe beaucoup plus forte que celle de 2*s.* 6*d.* par gallon.

Mr. Charles Bernard avait été chargé d'étudier les vins d'Espagne et de Portugal sous ces deux points de vue :

1°. Quelle était la plus grande force alcoolique de ces vins à leur état naturel ?

2°. Si la confection de ces vins au moyen d'autres vins plus forts, ou par l'eau-de-vie, était indispensable à leur conservation ou si elle n'avait d'autre but que d'en augmenter la valeur au marché ?

D'après le résultat des expériences faites par Mr. Charles Bernard, et indiquées aux tableaux et sur les notes annexées à son Rapport, la force alcoolique des vins Portugais varie entre 21·4° et 34° de Sikes. Mais tous les échantillons qui ont présenté une force alcoolique inférieure à 27° (Nos. 38 à 42 et 47 à 52), étaient des vins nouveaux et purs de la récolte de 1861, qui étaient encore en fermentation lente ou incomplète. Mr. Charles Bernard a lui-même reconnu que la force alcoolique propre à ces vins devait se développer naturellement et augmenter à la longue, et qu'en tout cas, il était indispensable d'y mêler de l'alcool étranger, non pour satisfaire des caprices déraisonnables des consommateurs, mais pour conserver la douceur et le corps de ces vins.

" These samples," dit-il, " obtained from the farmers whose names are given opposite, are as yet free from any addition of spirit, the wines being still in a state of incomplete fermentation, will probably generate an additional amount of strength in the tonel or vat. They do not represent the finest class of wines, but a secondary quality ; the best sorts are invariably fortified immediately after they are drawn from the press, in order to preserve their sweetness and body, as the manufacturers do not like to risk the safety of such wines by the omission of this operation."

Le développement spontané et naturel de la force alcoolique des vins Portugais dans les tonneaux, et le besoin de les fortifier avec l'alcool de l'eau-de-vie ou des vins vieux, sont des faits si évidemment démontrés par l'expérience, que, malgré ses préventions, Mr. Charles Bernard a cru convenable de ne point produire contre cette opinion une autre opinion à laquelle il ne pouvait trouver aucun solide fondement : et c'est pour cela qu'il a dit : " I cannot, however, set my own inexperience in those matters too positively against the general tenor of opinion in Spain and Portugal of those most deeply interested in the success and appreciation of their wines, and the entire sum of my information, received while among them, is unmistakeably in favour of the extensive use of distilled spirit to strengthen, purify, and keep the wines they make."

Une longue expérience avait déjà prouvé à l'évidence dans ce pays, que la force alcoolique des vins Portugais tend naturellement à augmenter sur de plus grandes proportions que les vins d'autres pays, par cela même qu'ils sont aussi proportionnellement plus alcooliques, et parce qu'en outre il est indispensable de les fortifier par de l'alcool étranger, afin d'en conserver les qualités intrinsèques, qui font leur renommée. Mais si le moindre doute existait encore à cet égard, le résultat des expériences de Mr. Charles Bernard suffirait pour le dissiper. Ces expériences indiquent 35·4 per cent. comme terme moyen de la force alcoolique des vins de Portugal préparés pour le marché d'Angleterre.

Le Gouvernement Anglais a fait vérifier par des Commissaires techniques la force alcoolique des vins des principaux pays vinicoles de l'Europe, dans le but d'altérer l'échelle des droits correspondants, et de faire droit aux réclamations des producteurs et des négociants. Le résultat de ces recherches à prouvé jusqu'à l'évidence que la force alcoolique des vins Français, à l'état où ils sont exportés ordinairement, ne surpasse pas 26° de Sikes, tandis qui celle des vins Portugais à l'état où ils doivent être exportés dépasse ce degré.

L'échelle alcoolique fut altérée de nouveau, mais loin de réparer les dommages causés au Portugal cette altération n'a pas ôté au droit le caractère différentiel qui donnait un grand avantage dans les luttes de la concurrence aux vins de France et d'autres provenances contre les vins de Portugal, et a augmenté le mal, parce qu'elle a rendu le droit plus différentiel encore. La limite du droit de 1*s.* par gallon est actuellement 26° de Sikes, limite qui, d'après l'opinion du Commissaire Anglais, d'accord sur ce point avec celle des intéressés en France, est là suffisante pour que tous les vins de cette provenance soient sommis à cette taxe, tandis que les vins Portugais restent grevés d'une taxe de 2*s.* 6*d.* par gallon.

Il était facile de prévoir qu'un semblable régime différentiel exercerait l'influence la plus funeste sur le commerce des vins de Portugal ; les statistiques d'Angleterre confirment cette prévision comme on peut voir dans le tableau suivant.

Tableau Comparatif de l'Importation des Vins de Portugal et de France en Angleterre.

	Portugal.		France.	
	Importation.	Proportion avec la consommation générale.	Importation.	Proportion avec la consommation générale.
	Gallons.	Pour cent.	Gallons.	Pour cent.
1859	2,020,563	27·82	695,913	9·58
1862	2,350,434	23·96	1,901,200	19·39
1863	2,618,717	24·99	1,940,193	13·51
1864	2,831,163	24·71	2,305,756	20·12
1865	2,890,349	23·96	2,609,639	21·63

A la vérité, l'importation de vins Portugais a augmenté de 2,020,563 gallons en 1859 à 2,890,349 gallons en 1865 ; mais la proportion avec laquelle ces vins entraient dans la consommation générale a diminué de 27·82 pour cent à 23.96 pour cent, tandis que la proportion à l'égard des vins Français, s'est élevée de 9·58 pour cent à 21·63 pour cent. C'est sous cet aspect que doivent être considérés les résultats de l'échelle alcoolique adoptée comme base de la législation douanière Anglaise relativement aux vins.

Puissamment favorisés par un droit différentiel, les vins Français gagnent de jour en jour du terrain en Angleterre, au détriment des vins Portugais. Si, dans la lutte de la concurrence, les conditions légales étaient égales pour tous, si l'avantage obtenu par les vins Français pouvait être uniquement attribué à la volubilité de goût des consommateurs, le Portugal n'aurait pas à se plaindre ; mais tant que le droit d'importation aura un caractère différentiel, il ne pourra s'empêcher de voir avec peine que l'intervention des pouvoirs publics donne à la consommation une direction forcée au préjudice de ses produits.

Etablir clairement et positivement dans la législation économique de l'Angleterre un régime spécial en faveur d'une nation contre les autres nations, refuser le même régime à celles qui le demandent en offrant de justes compensations, serait une politique ouvertement contraire aux principes de liberté commerciale pour laquelle l'Angleterre s'honore de combattre. Il répugne donc au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté de croire que le Gouvernement Britannique a voulu introduire dans la législation de son pays, indirectement, et au moyen d'une échelle alcoolique calculée tout exprès, un régime qui, en fait, est différentiel en faveur de quelques nations contre quelques autres, mais qui, de droit, a les apparences d'un régime général pour toutes.

On a cependant publié en Angleterre plusieurs articles de journaux, et plusieurs pamphlets dans le but de nuire au crédit du vin de Porto, et de déterminer le Gouvernement Anglais à réprimer au moyen de forts droits le goût ou la préférence accordée à ces vins par les consommateurs, préférence qu'ils qualifient de calamité et honte nationale.

On a dit que le goût pour les vins forts n'était pas spontané, mais qu'on s'y était vu forcé autrefois à cause des droits différentiels établis par le Traité de Méthuen en faveur des droits Portugais, et que ce n'était que la force de l'habitude, qui conservait encore ce goût. On a même été jusqu'à dire que l'usage des vins forts détruisait la sensibilité du palais et le goût de la saveur des vins légers, enfin, il n'y avait aucun mal qui ne fût attribué à l'usage des vins forts, ni aucun avantage qu'on n'imaginât pour l'Angleterre du moment où l'on réprimerait le goût pour ces vins et où l'on favoriserait le goût des vins légers :

"A child will drink pure wine, and reject that which is fortified," dit un auteur ; "and hence it may be hoped, and there is comfort in the hope, that a great blessing will fall upon England if, by the introduction and encouragement given to the consumption of unbrandied wine, the rising generation should be led to abandon that which we call the acquired taste for strong wines, and drink only those of pure and natural growth."

Un homme d'Etat fort distingué disait eu 1861 an Parlement Anglais :

"The fact is, that the taste for wine in England is materially connected with the course of our politics and the Revolution of 1688 ; but still more, the Hanoverian succession and our wars with France, contributed greatly to alter the taste of this country, so that those who before loved light wines began to love strong wines. I believe it is on record that the University of Oxford, with which I have the honour to be intimately connected, petitioned Parliament against the grievance of laying heavy duties on light wines, and compelling them to drink port."

Ces faits, ainsi que plusieurs autres qu'il serait trop long d'énumérer servent d'appui à l'opinion que le régime actuel des vins en Angleterre est l'inversion des avantages accordées aux vins Portugais par le Traité de Méthuen. Or, si les négociants et les producteurs

Portugais ne déplorent pas la perte de faveurs exceptionnelles, ils ont raison de voir avec peine l'établissement d'un système qui imprime à la consommation en Angleterre une direction opposée à leurs intérêts ; et s'ils ne réclament pas de privilège, mais bien une condition égale à celles des autres concurrents, pour que ce soit uniquement le goût et la convenance du consommateur qui décide de la préférence, ils ne font que défendre les principes de la liberté commerciale et les règles de l'équité internationale, et c'est pour ces principes et pour ces règles qu'ils combattent.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne pouvait rester indifférent à cet état de choses, et dans le but d'y mettre un terme, il a à différentes reprises sollicité du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, par l'intermédiaire de la Légation Portugaise à Londres, la modification de l'échelle alcoolique. Mais le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a toujours répondu que cette échelle n'était pas un régime spécial, mais un régime général, et que les circonstances de son trésor ne lui permettaient pas de sacrifier la recette qu'il en retirait.

Il est hors de doute que l'échelle alcoolique actuelle ne constitue pas un régiem différentiel de droit, mais il l'est évidemment de fait, et toutes les raisons de la science économique, toutes les leçons de l'expérience, toutes les données statistiques, toutes les indications de l'état social et commercial de l'Angleterre, toutes les tendances de la consommation, portent à croire que la substitution de l'échelle alcoolique, ou son altération comme base des droits sur les vins, loin de produire une défalcation, occasionnera une augmentation de revenu.

Dans l'espoir d'un meilleur résultat, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté a dernièrement renouvelé ses instances et proposé la négociation d'un Traité de Commerce, formé sur la réciprocité des avantages. Sur cette base la substitution de l'échelle alcoolique, ou du moins une altération qui ôterait au droit en vigueur tout son caractère différentiel, ne pourrait s'empêcher d'être une condition *sine quâ non* de la négociation, non-seulement parce que c'est là le principal avantage que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté pourrait obtenir, mais encore parce qu'il répugnerait à tous les principes, de conclure un Traité de Commerce avec l'Angleterre en conservant un droit différentiel au préjudice du plus riche produit de l'agriculture, et de l'article le plus important de l'exportation du Portugal.

Le Gouvernement de Majesté Britannique a fait examiner cette proposition par le Conseil du Commerce, et dans la Note qu'il a adressée au Comte de Rilvas le 7 Septembre dernier, Lord Stanley émet l'opinion du Cabinet Anglais à ce sujet.

Le Cabinet Anglais est d'avis que les droits élevés des Tarifs Portugais s'opposent au développement du commerce et que le Gouvernement Portugais ferait bien de réduire ces droits même dans son intérêt et indépendamment de toute mesure de la part de l'Angleterre. Lord Stanley cite à l'appui de cette opinion l'expérience des dernières années, qui, d'après les faits cités dans son Mémorandum, joint à sa note, tend à prouver que la réduction des droits exorbitants sur l'exportation contribue directement à developper le commerce et à augmenter la recette du trésor, et il cite spécialement le grand accroissement du commerce de l'Angleterre avec la France depuis les dernières réductions dans les tarifs des deux nations.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ayant en considération les motifs allégués par Lord Stanley, ne peut cependant accepter le système qu'il indique pour réformer la législation douanière du Portugal, parce que les raisons sur lesquelles s'appuie Lord Stanley, quoique incontestables en thèse ne sont pas applicables à l'hypothèse en question.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté peut être convaincu de la convenance qu'il y aurait à réduire les droits de ses tarifs dans l'intérêt même du Portugal, mais il doit en tout cas, choisir l'occasion la plus propice et le système le plus convenable.

Or, il se présente deux systèmes à suivre ; les lois générales, et les Traités de Commerce. Au moyen du premier de ces systèmes le Gouvernement Portugais réduirait les droit qui grèvent les produits étrangers et dirait à toutes les nations :—" Les barrières de nos douanes sont abaissées ; apportez-nous vos produits, quand même vous excluez de vos marchés les plus riches produits de l'industrie et de l'agriculture du Portugal, au moyen d'un système restrictif, ou de droits différentiels." Par le second de ces systèmes le Portugal dira aux autres nations :—" Nous désirons réduire les droits de nos tarifs et resserrer les liens de vos relations commerciales avec nous, parce que nous y trouvons de grands avantages ; mais vous avez conclu des Traités de Commerce, où vous avez établi de fait, des régimes de faveur ou différentiels, qui excluent de vos marchés les articles les plus importants de l'exportation de notre pays, et comme le commerce consiste dans l'échange des produits, il nous est impossible d'améliorer nos relations commerciales tant que vous ne nous accorderez pas de fait le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée. Jusqu'alors nous serons forcés à suivre le système que vous avez inauguré.

Il y a déjà longtemps que le premier de ces systèmes a été conseillé par J. B. Say, et même de nos jours, il est défendu par plusieurs économistes, spécialement par ceux de l'école dénommée—Ecole de Manchester. Mais le système des Traités de Commerce a été adopté en pratique par les hommes d'Etat les plus éminents, inclusivement par les chefs et les fondateurs de l'Ecole de Manchester, lorsqu'ils ont été appelés à la gestion des affaires publiques de leur pays, ou à y prendre part. Dans les circonstances spéciales du Portugal il n'y aurait aucun homme d'Etat, gérant les affaires et supportant le poids de la responsabilité des destinées de ce pays, qui adoptât un système différent.

En France, aucun Gouvernement n'a pu faire une réforme profonde dans les Tarifs, qu'au moyen des Traités de Commerce. Louis XVIII désirait sincèrement accorder à la France une liberté commerciale tempérée, mais les désirs du Roi, et les efforts du Baron Louis et d'autres Ministres de la Restauration, ne purent même pas obtenir une réduction importante des droits sur le pain du peuple et sur celui de l'industrie, les céréales et le fer. Pendant la monarchie de Juillet toutes les tentatives de réforme du Tarif échouèrent au Parlement devant la résistance que leur opposaient les coalitions des intérêts qui se croyaient lésés. Sous le second empire, le Gouvernement de Napoléon III, qui par le prestige de son nom et de sa gloire, par la profondeur de son génie, par l'énergie de sa volonté et de son caractère, avait triomphé de tant de résistances, le Gouvernement de Napoléon lui-même a été obligé de retirer en 1856 un projet de réforme des Tarifs en présence de l'opposition qu'il rencontra au sein du Corps Législatif. Il y a tant lieu de croire que le système prohibitif ou restrictif serait encore en vigueur en France, si l'Empereur n'avait pas usé du droit qu'il s'est réservé dans la Constitution, de conclure des Traités de Commerce.

Lorsque Mr. Huskisson proposait en Angleterre le Bill qui conférait à la Couronne la faculté de supprimer les droits différentiels que les navires étrangers payaient dans les ports Anglais, il consignait expressément la clause de la réciprocité pour obliger les autres nations à traiter avec l'Angleterre sur cette base. C'est en conséquence de cette disposition que peu de temps après, le Gouvernement Anglais concluait des Traités de Commerce avec la Prusse, la Suède, les Villes Hanséatiques, la France, et les Républiques de l'Amérique du Sud. Il est vrai que Sir Robert Peel a fait de profondes réformes dans la législation douanière de l'Angleterre au moyen de lois générales applicables à toutes les nations sans aucune espèce de réciprocité ; mais dans les circonstances où ces réformes furent décrétées, cet éminent homme d'Etat ne pouvait recourir à l'autre système. Les réformes de Sir Robert Peel étaient des mesures urgentes qui ne pouvaient admettre les délais inévitables d'une négociation diplomatique. Mais il y a encore dans l'histoire contemporaire de l'Angleterre des exemples, qu'on peut citer plus à propos.

En Juillet 1856, lorsque Mr. Benjamin d'Oliveira, membre du Parlement, est allé à la tête d'une députation représenter à Lord Palmerston qu'il serait convenable de réduire les droits sur les vins au moyen de Traités de Commerce, le Chef du Cabinet répondit: " Qu'il ne s'accordait pas avec la politique de son Administration de faire des réduction de droits au moyen de Conventions avec les autres pays." Cependant, peu d'années après, le Cabinet présidé par Lord Palmerston, envoyait Mr. Cobden à Paris pour négocier un Traité de Commerce avec la France dans lequel des réductions sur les droits des vins et de plusieurs autres articles étaient stipulées. Mr. Gladstone, qui reconnaissait depuis longtemps la convenance qu'il y avait à réduire les droits sur ces articles, au lieu de le faire par une loi générale, sans prêter la moindre attention à la politique commerciale des autres nations, attendait l'occasion opportune pour stipuler dans un Traité avec la France les réductions qu'il désirait et qu'il aurait pu avoir accomplis dans l'interêt même de l'Angleterre.

Quand M. Michel Chevalier lui assura que l'occasion propice était arrivée, Mr. Gladstone employa tous ses efforts pour encourager et pour faciliter la négociation. Et tandis que Mr. Cobden négociait à Paris, Mr. Bright cherchait à Londres des prosélytes en faveur de la nouvelle cause des réformes commerciales au moyen de Traités internationaux. De sorte que les deux plus illustres fondateurs de l'Ecole de Manchester, et leur plus illustre néophyte se sont trouvés d'accord pour sacrifier le dogme de leur école dans l'intérêt de leur pays. Personne ne peut leur en faire un reproche.

Les réformes commerciales sont d'autant plus fécondes qu'elles s'étendent aux autres pays au moyen de la réciprocité. Si le Gouvernement Anglais pouvant, au moyen d'une réduction dans ses tarifs, déterminer le Gouvernement Français à faire des réductions identiques au profit des produits de l'industrie Anglaise, eût sacrifié ce grand interêt national à la théorie exagérée d'une école, il aurait commis une erreur que les sectateurs même de cette école ne lui auraient pas pardonnée. Les documents annexés à la Note de Lord Stanley sont la justification la plus complète qui puisse se faire des réformes commerciales, au moyen de Traités de Commerce. Après le Traité de 1860, le progrès du com-

merce entre l'Angleterre et la France est considérable: il est immense. Mais à quoi se réduirait ce progrès, si la France eut encore conservé son système prohibitif, lors même que le Gouvernement Anglais eût reformé ses tarifs? Et quelle serait la justification possible d'un Ministère qui, pouvant obtenir tant d'avantages au moyen d'une réforme économique, renoncerait à la plupart de ces avantages par amour pour le principe exagéré d'une école qui l'a déjà abandonnè?

Il ne peut y avoir de principes ni de systémes absolus en matières économiques. Les économistes de Manchester ont tellement exagéré le système contraire aux Traités de Commerce que les Chefs de leur école ne l'accepteraient même pas. J. B. Say, lui-même, ne condamne par absolument les Traités de Commerce; bien au contraire, il déclare qu'il les approuve quand ils servent à obtenir de plus faciles et de plus complètes communications avec une autre nation. "On ne saurait blâmer l'emploi de ce moyen, s'il atteint son but," dit-il. Mais en outre, les Traités de Commerce que Mr. Say condamne sont ceux dans lesquels on stipule des régimes spéciaux en faveur d'une nation au préjudice d'autres qui tôt ou tard se ressentent de cette inégalité. Il condamne les Traités qui, au lieu de la consolider, troublent la paix dont le commerce et l'industrie sont le plus sûr garant, à cause des relations et de la solidarité des intérêts économiques, qu'ils établissent entre les peuples. "L'industrie est amie de la paix, dit M. Say; il y a dans les faveurs accordées à une nation par un Traité de Commerce, quelque chose d'hostile envers toutes les autres, dont elles se ressentent tôt ou tard."

Mais les Traités de Commerce qui établissent le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée de fait et de droit, et dont les stipulations et les tarifs correspondants doivent s'étendre à toutes les nations moyennant la réciprocité; les Traités qui ont pour but d'étendre les effets et les bienfaits des réformes économiques, en déterminant les Gouvernements, au moyen d'avantages mutuels, à abattre les barrières de leurs douanes, et à éloigner les obstacles qui s'opposent au développement du commerce extérieur; les Traités qui doivent rendre plus faciles et plus fécondes les réformes de la législation douanière des pays qui ne pourraient les réaliser d'une autre sorte; les Traités enfin, fondés sur les bases, et conclus aux conditions et dans le but pour lequel ils ont été célébrés modernement, et auxquelles le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté désire en conclure un avec l'Angleterre, ne sont pas ceux que réprouve J. B. Say et ne peuvent être réprouvés par ses disciples.

Mais il y a encore d'avantage. Outre les raisons générales qui viennent d'être déposées, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté en a d'autres particulières à son pays, raisons qui sont d'une grande importance pour ne point s'éloigner de la politique commerciale qu'il s'est imposée et pour ne pas retirer la proposition qu'il a eu l'honneur d'adresser au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, par l'intermédiaire du Comte de Lavradio.

Le Portugal a été le dernier pays de l'Europe qui a établi le système protecteur, et il n'a pas été le premier de ceux qui ont inauguré la politique moderne des Traités de Commerce. S'il ne peut en revendiquer l'honneur, du mions il décline de soi la responsabilité de toute conséquence nécessaire de ces faits.

Le système protecteur fut organisé en Portugal en 1836, d'après la politique et la législation qui étaient alors en vigueur dans les autres pays de l'Europe; mais de nombreux et de puissants intérêts se créèrent à l'ombre du système protecteur. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté reconnaît les inconvénients de ce systéme et les avantages d'une politique plus libérale. Aussi est-il disposé à employer tous ses efforts pour faire triompher les principes qu'il considère comme les plus justes et les plus utiles au pays pour tout ce qui concerne le commerce international. Mais, d'accord avec l'opinion des économistes les plus autorisés, il veut que la transition ne soit pas trop rapide, et que la victoire des bons principes ne soit pas trop douloureuse pour les intérêts vaincus; il veut avoir pour ces intérêts tous les égards auxquels ils auront droit, et qui seront compatibles avec le bien général du pays. Cependant en Portugal, comme dans tous les pays, lorsqu'il s'agit de réduire les droits des douanes, les intérêts que cette réduction peut affecter se liguent, ainsi que tous ceux qui vivent, ou qui prétendent vivre à l'ombre du système protecteur. Pour vaincre ces coalitions, pour détruire ces craintes des industries, qui n'ont pas assez de confiance en elles-mêmes, et qui d'ailleurs ne sont dominées que par des préjugés, il faut imiter ce qu'ont fait les Gouvernements d'Angleterre, de France, et d'autres nations, en des circonstances identiques et peut-être plus favorables, il faut élargir les marchés pour donner une satisfaction légitime aux industries fortes, fécondes, qui ont de l'avenir et parmi lesquelles se distingue, entre nous, l'industrie agricole.

Il est vrai que l'Angleterre a généralisé son régime conventionnel; mais à l'égard des vins, le régime n'est resté général que dans le texte de la loi; mais de fait, il n'a pas cessé d'être exceptionnel et différentiel, ainsi qu'il a été démontré. En outre la France, l'Italie, la Suède, et d'autres nations qui ont des tarifs conventionnels, ne les ont pas encore

généralisés, et, en vertu de ces régimes spéciaux, les produits Portugais se trouvent beaucoup moins favorisés dans les marchés de ces nations, eu égard aux produits similaires d'autres pays.

En pareille circonstance, si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté renonçait à la politique commerciale inaugurée par l'Angleterre et par la France, et essayait de réduire les droits des douanes, sans aucune espèce de réciprocité, il commettrait une erreur très-grave, dont il ne pourrait nullement se justifier, parce que, sans compter les raisons de tous les temps, les exemples et les expériences modernes, il devrait se souvenir de la plus ancienne expérience de la Belgique qui ayant suivi une politique différente, et voyant ensuite que tous les efforts de sa diplomatie étaient inutiles pour conclure des Traités avantageux, se vit obligée à reculer et à établir ou à maintenir des droits, dans le seul but d'avoir des éléments qui pussent servir de base aux négociations.

Lord Stanley observe que les réductions du Tarif Anglais de 1860 n'ont pas été faites en faveur de la France, mais qu'elles ont été applicables à tous les pays, même au Portugal ; et ainsi qu'on peut s'en assurer par le Mémorandum, qui accompagne sa note, ces réductions out été calculées de façon à favoriser ce que le Comte de Lavradio qualifiait du titre de plus important des produits Portugais, le vin. Si la réduction faite par un pays dans les droits qui pèsent sur les produits d'un autre peuvent se considérer comme une concession, il semble donc que l'Angleterre a accordé à l'avance ce que le Portugal pourrait réclamer maintenant en vertu du principe de réciprocité.

L'accroissement de l'exportation des vins Français serait dû principalement à la réduction des tarifs Français sur l'importation des produits étrangers, parce que les réformes commerciales qui encouragent les importations, encouragent aussi les exportations, ainsi que le prouve l'expérience des dernières années ; et enfin, si la réduction du Tarif Anglais sur les droits des vins n'était pas profitable au Portugal dans la même proportion, la faute en est à ce pays, parce qu'il conserve dans son tarif des droits très élevés, et que pour jouir des concessions faites à l'avance par l'Angleterre, il ne lui reste qu'à encourager le commerce Anglais au moyen d'une réforme douanière.

Ce qui a déjà été exposé dispense le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté d'entrer dans de plus larges considérations pour démontrer que ces observations du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique peuvent à peine se soutenir en présence des faits.

Il est vrai que le droit sur les vins a été réduit par le Traité avec la France de 1*s.* $9\frac{1}{10}$*d.* par gallon, à une taxe qui varie de 1*s.* à 2*s.* 6*d.* par gallon, et que cette réduction a été plus tard étendue aux vins des autres pays. Mais la nouvelle taxe, ainsi qu'il a été démontré, a eu la nature de différentielle pour les vins Portugais, nature que n'avait point la taxe antérieure. Par conséquent, loin d'encourager le commerce des vins de Portugal, elle devait exercer sur lui, comme elle l'exerce en ce moment, la plus funeste influence. En présence de cette expérience propre, triste mais éloquente, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté croit devoir s'abstenir de citer l'expérience d'autres pays et les opinions des économistes pour convaincre le Governement de Sa Majesté Britannique que la taxe antérieure, plus élevée, mais uniforme et égale pour les vins de toutes les nations, était plus avantageuse pour le Portugal que la taxe réduite avec sa nature toute différentielle.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté croit également que les autres faits rapportés dans le Mémorandum joint à la note de Lord Stanley, ne peuvent être légitimement invoqués, pour prouver la proposition que la réforme du tarif Anglais, en ce qui concerne les droits sur les vins, a été calculée de façon à favoriser le principal article d'exportation du Portugal.

La réduction des droits sur les eaux-de-vie et sur les spiritueux étrangers et l'élévation des droits sur les eaux-de-vie et les spiritueux d'Angleterre et de ses Colonies, devaient surtout favoriser la France, au bénéfice de laquelle elles ont été d'abord et virtuellement stipulées dans l'article additionnel signé à Paris, le 25 Février, 1860, et par lequel Sa Majesté Britannique s'obligeait à recommander au Parlement l'admission des eaux-de-vie et des spiritueux importés de France moyennant un droit exactement égal à celui qui était perçu sur les produits similaires de fabrication nationale (sauf, bien entendu, le droit additionnel destiné à compenser les dépenses occasionnées aux producteurs nationaux par le système de l'accise). Mais de cette réduction de droits il ne pouvait résulter aucun avantage pour le Portugal, qui n'est pas un pays producteur et exportateur, sur une grande échelle, des eaux-de-vie et des spiritueux.

La suppression du droit différentiel en faveur des vins des Colonies Anglaises pouvait, sans nul doute, contribuer à l'augmentation de la consommation des vins qui pourraient concourir avec eux dans les marchés étrangers. Mais le droit différentiel sur les vins plus ou moins alcooliques a ôté cet avantage au Portugal pour le donner aux pays dont les vins, d'après les expériences et les vérifications faites par les Commissaires du Gouver-

nement Anglais, devaient être exemptés du droit le plus lourd, et pour cela même concourir plus avantageusement dans ces marchés avec les vins des Colonies Anglaises.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté reconnaît que les réformes commerciales qui encouragent l'importation, encouragent en même temps l'exportation, parce que la liaison la plus intime existe entre ces deux faits économiques. La science le démontre et l'expérience, non-seulement des dernières années, mais de tous les temps le confirme. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté croit toutefois qu'on peut déduire de cette doctrine, d'ailleurs incontroverse, des conséquences diverses de celles que Lord Stanley en a déduites. Si le commerce est l'échange des produits, si l'importation et l'exportation sont deux faits intimement liés entr'eux, à quoi servirait au Portugal de réduire les droits de son Tarif sur l'importation des produits Anglais tant que l'Angleterre conservera un régime, qui non-seulement s'oppose au développement de l'exportation du plus riche produit du Portugal, mais qui tend encore à le restreindre?

Si les réformes commerciales qui animent l'importation, animent et encouragent en même temps et nécessairement l'exportation, pourquoi l'Angleterre n'a-t-elle pas commencé par encourager l'importation des vins Portugais, en supprimant le droit différentiel qui pèse sur eux, afin d'animer par ce moyen dont on exalte l'efficacité, l'exportation des produits Anglais dans l'intérêt de son propre pays? Si le commerce entre le Portugal et l'Angleterre augmente sur des proportions beaucoup moindres que le commerce entre l'Angleterre d'une part, et la France et la Belgique d'autre part, la faute n'en revient pas au Portugal, qui, dans les circonstances actuelles, ne peut et ne doit réformer sa législation douanière au moyen d'une mesure générale sans aucune réciprocité de la part des pays, dans les marchés desquels les produits Portugais sont moins favorisés que les produits similaires d'autres pays, la faute en est à l'Angleterre, qui s'est refusée sans motif justifié à altérer un régime, qui entrave le développement de l'importation des principaux produits du Portugal.

La conclusion légitime de la doctrine émise par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique et acceptée par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, n'est donc pas que le Gouvernement Portugais doive réformer ses Tarifs au moyen d'une mesure générale; mais bien que le Gouvernement Anglais, dans le double intérêt de son propre pays, doit accepter la proposition d'un Traité de Commerce dont elle ne retirera pas seulement les avantages qui résulteraient de l'altération du régime des vins, mais encore ceux que l'industrie et le commerce Anglais doivent retirer des réductions que le Gouvernement Portugais est disposé à faire par réciprocité.

Lord Stanley fait encore observer, que d'après les informations que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a reçues, la force alcoolique de la majeure partie des vins Portugais est inférieure à 26 pour cent et que, par conséquent, ils pourraient être importés en Angleterre moyennant le droit de 1*s.*, comme les vins Français, si on n'y mêlait de l'alcool en quantités inutiles. Il fait encore observer que le goût et la recherche des vins légers et peu coûteux augmente en Angleterre. Il y a dix ans que la moyenne du prix des vins Français était presque le double du prix des vins Portugais, et maintenant, il est à peine de deux tiers supérieur au prix des vins Portugais. Le prix moyen des vins Français a baissé de 12*s.* et de 13*s.* par gallon, en même temps que celui des vins Portugais est de près de 6*s.*, c'est-à-dire, presque le même qu'il était en 1854. Les avantages que la France a obtenus pour ses vins sont dus en premier lieu aux effets de sa politique libérale à l'égard de l'importation Anglaise, et en second lieu à la manière dont elle cherche à satisfaire le goût et la recherche des vins légers et à bon marché. Ainsi, d'après la manière de voir du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, le Portugal aurait en main le mède contre le mal dont il se plaint, remède qui consisterait: 1. A ne pas confectionner ses vins avec de l'eau-de-vie; 2. A réduire les prix auxquels il les vend dans les marchés Anglais.

Cependant, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est d'opinion que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne pouvait recevoir des informations plus dignes de foi, à l'égard de la force alcoolique des vins Portugais et de l'impérieuse nécessité de les confectionner avec de l'eau-de-vie ou avec du vin vieux, que celles qui lui ont été données par le Commissaire qu'il a envoyé exprès en Portugal, pour étudier les vins sous ces deux points de vue. Or, il se déduit, avec la plus grande évidence, du compte-rendu et des documents qui y sont joints, présenté au Gouvernement Anglais par son Commissaire, Mr. Charles Bernard, non-seulement que la force alcoolique des vins Portugais dans les conditions essentielles pour leur exportation, ne peut en aucun cas être inférieure à 26 pour cent d'esprit, type d'Angleterre, mais aussi l'impérieuse nécessité d'y mêler de l'alcool étranger. Il est vrai que Mr. Bernard dit ce qui suit dans son compte-rendu:—

"The samples which I procured from the different vineyards in the district (Alto

Douro) of the present year's growth, were as yet free from extraneous spirit. They were, however, in a state of fermentation at the time, but sufficiently advanced for me to forward the samples, Nos. 38 to 42, which show an average strength of 23·5 per cent. only."

Mais, en premier lieu, les échantillons Nos. 38 à 42 ne peuvent représenter la grande proportion des vins de Portugal citée dans la note de Lord Stanley quand il prétend démontrer que les vins Portugais peuvent être importés en Angleterre avec le droit de 1*s.* par gallon. En second lieu, Mr. Charles Bernard ajoute :

"It is, however, to be expected, that in tonel a considerable increase of spirit may be generated. Mr. Fladgate, grower, &c., Oporto, illustrated this to me by the following statement.' He tried a sample of wine when drawn from the lagar, or press, in October 1860, and found it contained nearly 19 per cent. of spirit ; in June of 1861 the same wine drawn from tonel showed 22·8 per cent."

Or, les vins Portugais ne s'exportent pas pour l'Angleterre à l'état de fermentation où Mr. Charles Bernard les a éprouvés, mais bien après les avoir préparés et conservés en futailles pendant plusieurs mois ou plusieurs années. Mais en tout cas, les vins cueillis aux vendanges d'Octobre ne pourraient être exportés pour l'Angleterre avant le mois de Juin de l'année suivante, et par conséquent leur force alcoolique naturelle, se développant proportionnellement, dépasserait 27 per cent. d'esprit, type d'Angleterre. En outre une longue expérience démontre qu'il est indispensable de mêler de l'alcool étranger aux vins de commerce Portugais, afin de maintenir l'équilibre entre les éléments qui en constituent la valeur, ainsi que Mr. Charles Bernard le reconnaît dans le passage déjà cité, et qu'on peut le déduire de la lettre de Mr. Harriss, reproduite par lui à propos de l'échantillon, qu'il regarde comme le plus important dans la question dont il s'agit :

"These two bottles of wine," dit-il, "have been in my possession upwards of fifteen years ; they are of the vintage of 1834, and are taken from two lots made at the same time in the French style, and without a drop of brandy ; the moment the fermentation was complete, the wine was bottled. The experiment was made to ascertain whether port wine could be so treated as to keep without brandy, and as we are now in the year 1861, the trial has completely succeeded ; but the wine, though made in good situation, in the Alto Douro, and in a year remarkable for fine wines, was valued in London at about 8*l.* or 9*l.* per pipe, being considered excessively harsh, and inferior to the common low wines of France. The cost to the maker could not be less than 25*l.* to 30*l.* per pipe, so that in a commercial point of view the failure could scarcely have been more disastrous."

Il s'ensuit donc que, quand même les vins Portugais pourraient se conserver sans qu'on eût besoin d'y mêler de l'alcool étranger, cette opération est indispensable afin d'éviter la dépréciation la plus complète.

Les moyennes des forces alcooliques des districts vinicoles du Portugal ont été soigneusement étudiées à l'Institut Agricole de Lisbonne par une Commission technique, composée de professeurs distingués. Voici quelles sont ces moyennes :

	Gay-Lussac.	Sikes' Table adoptée par	
		Charles Bernard.	Les Professeurs de l'Institut Agricole.
Braga	8	13	13·3
Coimbra	9	15	15
Aveiro	12	20	20·2
Guarda	13	21·5	21·9
Bragança	14	23	23·6
Evora	14	23	23·6
Vizen	14	23	23·6
Lisboa	14	23	23·6
Portalegre	15	24	25·3
Villa Real	15	24	25·3
Faro	15	24	25·3
Castello Branco	16	25	27·1
Beja	16	25	27·1
Santarem	16	25	27·1

Les districts de Braga, Coimbra, et Aveiro ne produisent que des vins verts, ou communs, qui ne s'exportent point pour l'Angleterre, et la force alcoolique des vins purs ou à l'état naturel des autres districts vinicoles, augmentée de celle qui se développe naturellement et de celle qu'il est indispensable de leur donner pour les rendre exportables. sera toujours supérieure à 26 per cent d'esprit d'épreuve.

D'après ce qu'il vient d'être exposé, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté se plait à croire que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne doutera plus que les vins Portugais importés en Angleterre sont tous inévitablement soumis au droit de 2*s.* 6*d.*, c'est à dire, à un droit qui est deux fois et demie plus élevé que celui que paient les vins de France et ceux d'autres nations.

Sans doute, la réduction du prix doit avoir contribué à augmenter la consommation des vins Français et à leur assurer de grands avantages dans les luttes de la concurrence; mais tous les efforts de l'agriculture, du commerce et du Gouvernement Portugais pour réduire proportionellement le prix des vins de Portugal seraient complétement inutiles sans le concours du Gouvernement Anglais.

Les vins Français font leur entrée dans les marchés d'Angleterre grevés à peine du droit de 1*s.* par gallon, tandis qui le droit que pèse sur les vins Portugais est 2*s.* 6*d.* La valeur des droits de consommation est nécessairement un élément constitutif du prix de vente; par conséquent, tant que le Gouvernement Anglais conservera dans son tarif cette différence ou plutôt cette disproportion de droits, celle-ci sera représentée dans les prix de vente.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique conseille au Portugal d'offrir des vins à bon marché aux consommateurs, afin d'obtenir les mêmes avantages que la France. Les considérations émises dans la note de Lord Stanley, mèneraient, d'après les propres paroles de son Excellence à conclure que l'avantage du Portugal à réduire les droits de son tarif sur l'importation est plus grand que celui d'Angleterre à célébrer un Traité de réciprocité, et que d'ailleurs l'échelle alcoolique ne cause aucun préjudice aux intérêts de l'agriculture et du commerce des vins Portugais. Mais le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté voit avec le plus grand plaisir que, malgré ces considérations, qui viennent d'être appréciseé, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique déclare que, si toutefois il semble probable que la négociation d'un Traité de commerce peut faciliter les réformes que le Gouvernement Portugais a en vue, il est disposé à en accueillir la proposition.

Cette déclaration est d'autant plus agréable au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, qu'il serait difficile d'expliquer la persistance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique à conserver un régime, qui blesse profondément les intérêts du Portugal et suscite des réclamations et des plaintes générales.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté avait proposé comme base de la négociation une parfaite réciprocité d'avantages, et indique comme le plus important pour le Portugal la substitution, au du moins l'altération de l'échelle alcoolique; de sorte que le droit sur les vins Portugais n'ait plus un caractère différentiel. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne croit pas qu'il soit possible d'abolir complétement l'échelle alcoolique, mais il se montre disposé à réduire le droit ou à altérer la limite de l'échelle, en se réservant la faculté d'étendre ces concessions aux autres pays.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté n'oppose aucune objection à ces bases indiquées par Lord Stanley, pourvu que la limite de l'échelle soit fixée de manière qu'il n'en résulte pas que les vins Portugais, à leur grand préjudice, continuent à être grevés d'un droit différentiel. Il croit cependant que la réforme serait hautement avantageuse, non-seulement pour les pays vinicoles, mais encore pour l'Angleterre elle-même, si l'on réduisait le le droit à une taxe modérée, inférieure au minimum de la taxe actuelle de 1*s.* par gallon.

Le vin est actuellement considéré comme un grand élément de vigueur et de santé, et comme un objet de première nécessité, surtout pour un peuple essentiellement industriel, pour lequel le travil est la richesse, la prospérité, la gloire, tout, enfin.

Il y eut un temps en Angleterre où l'opinion prédominante était que, dans l'intérêt de la santé et de la moralité, il convenait de restreindre, au moyen de droits élevés, la consommation des vins étrangers, et principalement de ceux du Portugal, et encourager celle des vins artificiels et des spiritueux nationaux. Mais cette opinion, ou ce préjugé, a dû tomber complétement en présence de l'analyse faite par les hommes les plus compétents et les plus impartiaux et des effets des vins naturels et des vins artificiels ou des spiritueux, ou des boissons chaudes obtenues par le moyen de la fermentation de graines de céréales, de fécules et de fruits avariés pour la plupart.

Le Docteur Richarson dit que l'usage de la bière produit tôt ou tard des affections de cerveau; et après avoir considéré le vin de Porto comme le remède le plus efficace pour prévenir quelques maladies et pour en guérir d'autres, est absolument nécessaire pour la conservation de la santé, il ajoute: "God help those who cannot afford it, for neither porter, ale, nor gin supply its place." Mr. Redding regrette qu'à l'occasion du typhus qui ravageait l'Angleterre, le vin, qui en était le principal remède, n'ait pas été accessible aux pauvres à cause de ses droits élevés, d'autant plus qu'à cette époque ils ne pouvaient

non plus faire usage de la quinine, à cause de son prix excessif, "which is a positive cruelty," dit-il.

Les circonstances du trésor Anglais n'ont jamais été aussi prospères, ni aussi propices pour une réforme qui doit être éminemment populaire en Angleterre. Les faits résumés dans les Mémoranda annexés à la note Lord Stanley seraient la réponse la plus éloquente et la plus convaincante qu'on pourrait faire à ceux qui opposeraient la diminution de la recette contre la réduction du droit. Les réductions opérées dans le tarif Anglais depuis 1842 ont été grandes et profondes, et nonobstant la recette se conserve presque au même niveau. Or, s'il y a un article sur lequel la réduction des droits devrait produire un accroissement de consommation et de recette, c'est le vin sans nul doute ; car, ainsi que le prouvent les statistiques, les tendances à l'augmentation sont déjà si fortes, qu'elles vainquent les obstacles que leur opposent les forts droits en vigueur, auxquels, plus qu'à aucun autre droit on peut appliquer les paroles du grand Adam Smith : "Have reduced the revenues of the custom beyond what moderate duties would have afforded."

Pour tous ces motifs, il semble au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté, que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique croirait opportune l'occasion où on lui offrirait d'autres compensations pour réaliser une réforme, qui était déjà vivement réclamée par les intérêts du commerce et par les besoins des classes laborieuses de son pays, et entièrement conforme à une politique qui peut être considérée comme traditionnelle et généralement acceptée par tous les partis en Angleterre, parce qu'elle leur a été léguée à tous avec la gloire de leurs illustres chefs.

En attendant, si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique croit que l'occasion de réaliser cette réforme n'est pas encore arrivée, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté acceptera le moyen proposé par Lord Stanley c'est à dire, l'altération de la limite de l'échelle, de de manière que le droit sur les vins perde le caractère différentiel qu'il a actuellement. Une réduction sur le droit, sans en altérer la limite, ne serait pas un remède efficace contre l'injustice dont se plaint le Portugal, parce que ce droit conserverait encore son caractère différentiel en faveur des vins d'autres nations.

L'altération de la limite de l'échelle, en l'élevant à un degré qui, à l'égard des droits, égale les vins Portugais à d'autres qui, dans les limites actuelles paient beaucoup moins, quoiqu'ils aient une valeur beaucoup plus grande dans le marché, est entièrement conforme aux principes de justice qui doivent présider à la distribution des impôts, et elle ne peut souffrir de graves objections, quelque soit le point de vue sous lequel on la considère.

Au point de vue financier, la diminution de la recette doit être proportionnellement insignifiante. Les vins Portugais, et une partie des vins Espagnols paient actuellement le droit de 2*s*. 6*d*. Mais en supposant même, que les vins de ces provenances importés en Angleterre sont soumis au même droit, la diminution de recette, calculée sur la moyenne de l'importation totale des deux pays pendant les années de 1863 à 1865, qui a été de 7,680,063 gallons, serait de 576,004*l*.

Mais tout indique que cette diminution serait immédiatement compensée par l'accroissement de la consommation, que le droit actuel, plutôt par sa nature différentielle que par son chiffre, tend à restreindre et a effectivement restreint. Mais quand même la compensation n'aurait pas lieu par ce moyen, elle s'effectuerait bien plus largement par les avantages qui résulteraient au commerce et à l'industrie d'Angleterre des réductions que, par réciprocité, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est disposé à faire sur les droits qui grèvent plusieurs des principaux articles de l'importation Anglaise.

Au point de vue fiscal, on a dit, il est vrai, en faveur de l'échelle alcoolique, qu'elle est nécessaire pour éviter les fraudes que pourraient occasionner l'importation et la distillation des vins fortement alcoolisés au préjudice de la recette provenant des droits des donanes ou de l'excise sur les eaux-de-vie.

Pour démontrer que cette crainte n'est pas fondée, il suffit de se rappeler que dans l'actualité les vins même les plus alcoolisés paient à peine un quart du droit des eaux-de-vie. Ce n'est donc pas l'élévation des droits sur les vins alcoolisés, qui empêche la fraude. La fraude est difficile pour d'autres raisons qui sont évidentes. Entre le droit de 2*s*. 6*d*. que paient les vins de Portugal, même les plus alcoolisés, et celui de 10*s*. que paient les eaux-de-vie, ou toute autre boisson qui s'introduise sous le nom de vin et contienne plus de 42 pour cent d'esprit, type d'Angleterre, la différence est assez sensible pour qu'elle occasionne cette contrebande lors même qu'elle pourrait avoir lieu ; et en tout cas la limite, actuellement fixée de 42 pour cent, s'y oppose.

Au point de vue commercial, la réforme dont il s'agit offre des avantages, non-seulement quant à la latitude des opérations, mais aussi quant à leur sûreté. Dans le régime actuel, le commerce n'a point de bases sûres pour établir ses calculs, parce que le vin qui, dans la cave du producteur ou dans le magasin de l'exportateur a 23 au 24 pour cent d'esprit d'épreuve, peut en vertu du développement naturel de l'alcool, en avoir plus de

26 pour cent à l'occasion de l'importation, et être soumis par conséquent à un droit fort supérieur à celui que le négociant imagine dans ses calculs.

Il ne reste plus qu'à apprécier la dernière observation présentée par Lord Stanley ; à savoir qu'en vue des Traités et des principes reçus en Angleterre, tout avantage accordé aux vins fortement alcooliques du Portugal s'étendrait aux vins identiques d'autres pays.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté n'a jamais eu l'intention de solliciter de l'Angleterre pour ses produits une concession ou un régime spécial, qu'elle ne pût étendre immédiatement aux autres nations.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne partage pas plusieurs des opinions émises à l'égard du Traité de 1703, dit M. de Méthuen ; il assure cependant qu'il ne le prend point pour type du nouveau Traité qu'il propose. Ceux qui attribuent le goût et la recherche des vins Portugais dans les marchés Anglais aux droits différentiels établis par le Traité de Méthuen, n'apprécient pas avec impartialité l'histoire économique de l'Angleterre. Les droits différentiels ont été établis à différentes reprises et conservés pendant plusieurs années dans les Tarifs Anglais pour des motifs très divers. Mais, si le Portugal ne demande pas pour soi un régime spécial dans la législation douanière de l'Angleterre, il réclame contre une législation qui établit, de fait, une inégalité injustifiable au préjudice de son principal article d'exportation. Le régime actuel exagère, en l'invertissant, la situation créée par le Traité de 1703, dit de Méthuen.

En vertu de ce Traité, les vins Portugais s'importaient en Angleterre moyennant un droit de moins du tiers de celui qui correspondait aux vins de France, tandis qu'ils paient aujourd'hui deux fois et demie le droit des vins Français.

Les pouvoirs publics, l'agriculture, et le commerce Portugais réunissent et emploient tous leurs efforts pour améliorer les procédés de la viniculture. L'abolition du système restrictif, auquel l'Angleterre semblait si intéressée et qu'elle avait si souvent sollicitée donnera en résultat une grande réduction sur le prix de vente en Angleterre, dès que le droit différentiel ne contrariera pas les effets salutaires de cette mesure.

Quand le Portugal se prépare ainsi pour les luttes de la concurrence, en faisant valoir les conditions naturelles par lesquelles le Créateur a garanti l'excellence de ses produits, l'Angleterre, son ancienne alliée, l'Angleterre, qui a inauguré en Europe la liberté pratique du commerce, ne peut insister à vouloir conserver l'inégalité des conditions légales, qui assurent dans ses marchés la prépondérance des vins d'autres nations.

En conclusion : le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne pourrait, sans offense des intérêts les plus importants du pays, renoncer à la politique commerciale qu'il a adoptée, et en vertu de laquelle il a proposé au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, un Traité de Commerce fondé sur la réciprocité. Il n'y avait aucun motif justifié qui pût déterminer le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique à refuser la condition essentielle de cette négociation, qui est la substitution ou l'altération de l'échelle alcoolique.

En déclarant qu'il est disposé à accueillir cette proposition, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique vient de donner une preuve irrécusable des sentiments de justice dont il est animé et du respect qu'il consacre envers les principes de l'école économique interprêtés avec sincérité. En acceptant la déclaration du Gouvernement Britannique, celui de Sa Majesté Frès Fidèle espère que la négociation entamée mènera en peu de temps à la conclusion d'un Traité qui, tout en donnant une satisfaction légitime au commerce des deux pays, sera comme un nouveau gage de la cordiale amitié qui les unit depuis une ère bien reculée.

Légation du Portugal à Londres, ce 6 Octobre, 1866.

(Translation.)

THE alcoholic scale was established in England as a groundwork for the levy of duties on the importation of wine, in virtue of the Treaty of Commerce concluded in 1860 between that country and France. The history of that Treaty is now well known.

The negociations between the two Powers lasted several years. At one time they became involved in questions arising out of the interpretation and application of the rules of reciprocity ; at another, they were delayed by the opposition which they met from interests which had grown up under the shelter of the protective system, whilst, at other times, they were wholly interrupted by the course of political events. At last, Mr. Gladstone and M. Michael Chevalier came to an understanding as to the basis on which to rest the negotiation, and from that time active steps were taken towards the conclusion of the Treaty.

The main object of France was to obtain special concessions for her wines. England, on the other hand, in exchange for that concession, wished to obtain important reductions in the duties levied on the produce of her manufactures by the French tariff.

The Treaty was finally signed and concluded at Paris on the 23rd of January, 1860. Article VI stipulates as follows:—

"Her Britannic Majesty binds herself to propose to Parliament the immediate reduction of the duty levied on the importation of French wines to a rate not exceeding 3*s.* per gallon up to the 1st of April, 1861; after that date the import dues will be fixed as follows:—

"1. On wines containing less than 15 degrees of spirit, according to English strength, verified by Sykes' hydrometer, the duty shall not exceed 1*s.* per gallon.

"2. On wines containing from 15 to 26 degrees, the duty will not exceed 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

"3. On wines containing from 26 to 40 degrees, the duty shall not exceed 2*s.* per gallon.

"4. On wines in bottle, the duty shall not exceed 4*s.* per gallon."

In their Report laid before the Emperor, the French Plenipotentiaries, Messieurs Baroche and Rouher, stated that the duty of 1*s.* per gallon constituted the normal tax leviable on French wine, and took great credit for having obtained a concession which they regarded as an important economical fact, and one destined to exercise a most beneficial influence on the agricultural prosperity of France.

The duty of 1*s.* per gallon constituted, it is true, the normal tax leviable on those wines which, on account of their value and the amount of them exported at the time of the Treaty, were of a nature more particularly to attract the attention of its negociators, but this did not apply to all French wines, nor to the majority of them. Experiments subsequently made even in English laboratories showed that the alcoholic strength of several of these wines, including those of Chateau Lafitte, could exceed the test of 15 per cent. proof spirit (according to English strength) which was the limit fixed in the Treaty for the 1*s.* duty. The alcoholic strength of French wines had either been miscalculated, or else regard had not been had to the fact that alcohol in time is developed by a process of slow fermentation, so that the Chateau Lafitte wine for instance, which, tested two years after the vintage, contains scarcely 14·8 per cent. of spirits, may four years later contain 16·5 per cent.

The disadvantage of which the French producers complained was promptly remedied in England. The alcoholic scale was so altered that the 1*s.* duty was to be no longer applied to wines containing less than 15 per cent. of proof spirit, but was indeed to those containing less than 18 per cent. Nevertheless this was not enough to exempt from the heaviest duty several French wines, the alcoholic strength of which exceeded that limit. The French producers and English merchants perceiving that the expectations which they had grounded on the alteration in the scale, were not always borne out by the test of Sykes' hydrometer, would naturally join in attempting to raise the standard of the lower duty to such a degree that that duty could in no case exceed the alcoholic strength of the wines in the importation of which they were interested.

Mr. Charles Cloney in January 1862, wrote as follows:—

"The operation of the alcoholic test in respect to the duty is somewhat anomalous, the duty upon the wine class A, containing not exceeding 18 per cent. of proof spirit, 1*s.* per gallon; but should it be one-tenth of a degree over 18 per cent., it becomes class B, and is charged an additional duty of 9*d.* per gallon. Class A is much too limited, and the present arrangement acts very prejudicially to the exclusion of many very good, pure, and cheap wines. There are varieties of the Burgundy, Rhone, and wines of the south of France, that being slightly over the class A, are chargeable with the duty of 1*s.* 9*d.*, whilst far more expensive wines pay only 1*s.* per gallon. It is understood that for some time past Government has been collecting statistics in the different wine-growing countries of Europe, in order to be satisfied as to the prudence of making a different regulation. A little common sense or practical knowledge is all that is wanting; in the interim the delay prevents the expansion of business, and is a positive loss to the exchequer."

The English Government had indeed sent Commissioners possessed of technical knowledge to the chief wine-producing districts of Europe with orders to inquire regarding the highest amount of alcoholic strength contained in the wines of each of those countries. The investigations of the English Government Commissioners, and the information which they gathered, showed in the clearest light that the alcoholic strength of French wines could not exceed 25 per cent. of proof spirit, whilst that of Portuguese wines, in the state in which they ought to be, or could be, exported, invariably exceeded that limit.

Mr. R. A. Ogilvie, whose duty it was to ascertain the highest alcoholic strength of French and Swiss wines, turned his attention to those departments of France, the wines of which were considered to contain the greatest amount of spirit; for, as he says in his Report, the study of these wines was the immediate object of his Mission. The experiments

made by Mr. Ogilvie, the results of which are stated in the Tables annexed to his Report, showed that the strength of the most alcoholic French wines varied from 15·4 to 23 or 24 per. cent. of proof spirit. The Hermitage, grown on M. Monier's property (specimen No. 24), and that of St. Gilles, grown on that of M. Pérouze (specimen No. 26), scarcely showed an excess of alcoholic strength: the former of 25·2, and the latter of 27·2 per cent. But M. Monier's wine was of the 1850 vintage, and M. Pérouze's was likewise several years old; and Mr. Ogilvie acknowledges that it is the most alcoholic wine to be met with in the district of St. Gilles, and indeed in all France.

"The wines" he says, "produced at St. Gilles on the property of M. Pérouze, the Député, are said to be the strongest grown in the district, and indeed amongst the strongest produced in any part of France . . . . This wine, with one exception, is the strongest red wine I was able to obtain in France, showing a strength of 27·2 per cent. of proof spirit."

It may therefore be said that none of the French wines brought into this market contain more than 23 or 24 per cent. proof spirit, not only because the supply of the wines which are exceptions to the above rule is limited and insignificant when compared to the products and exports of a great wine-growing country, but also because these same wines would not attain such strength were not the lapse of several years to increase it by means of the slow process of fermentation, which takes place in the cask, as shown by experience hitherto uncontradicted.

In France the common opinion of persons interested in the question of the alcoholic scale agrees with the conclusion arrived at by the illustrious Commissioner of the English Government. Here follow the observations made by Mr. Ogilvie in his Report of the 25th November, 1861:—

"The present scale of duties on wine imported into the United Kingdom is a source of general complaint throughout France, chiefly owing to its unequal pressure on their wines, the finest and most valuable of which are admitted at the lowest rate, while the less valuable kinds are so much more highly taxed. It appears to be the general idea, however, of parties interested in this question, that 14 degrees of Gay-Lussac, as the limit of the 1*s.* duty, would be quite sufficient to admit the greatest bulk of the wines of France at that rate. The only exception I met with to that opinion was in the district of the Eastern Pyrenees, where they seemed to think that we should admit their wines at the strength of which they usually fortify them for exportation, which would amount to about 32 degrees of Sykes.

Now, 14 degrees of Gay-Lussac, according to the table of equivalents, or the deductions which Mr. Ogilvie deems the most correct, answer to 23 degrees of Sykes. Therefore, according to the opinion of the persons interested in France, with one only exception, the grounds of which are not stated, it would suffice if the limit of the 1*s.* duty per gallon were of 14 degrees of Gay-Lussac, or of 23 degrees of Sykes, in order to admit the larger portion, or almost the whole of the French wines into England, subject to this tax.

On the other hand, the Report and documents laid before the English Parliament by Mr. Charles Bernard showed as clearly that it was not enough to place the limit of the 1*s.* duty at 23 degrees, or even at 26 degrees of Sykes, in order to free Portuguese wines in the state in which they are exported to England from a tax far heavier than that of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

Mr. Charles Bernard had been instructed to collect information respecting the wines of Spain and Portugal with a view of ascertaining the following two points:—

1st. What was the greatest alcoholic strength of those wines in their natural state?

2ndly. If the making up of those wines by the aid of other and stronger wines, or of brandy, was indispensable to their preservation, or whether it had no object other than the increase of their value in the market?

The result of the experiments made by Mr. Charles Bernard and set forth in the Tables and notes annexed to his Report, show that the alcoholic strength of Portuguese wines varies from 21·40 to 34 degrees of Sykes. All the principles, however, which showed an alcoholic strength less than 27 degrees (Nos. 38 to 42, and 47 to 52) were new and pure wines of the 1861 vintage, which were still undergoing a process of fermentation, gradual and incomplete. Mr. Charles Bernard himself acknowledged that the alcoholic strength peculiar to those wines would develop itself naturally and increase in time, and that in any case it was indispensable to mix them with foreign spirits, not to meet the unreasonable caprice or taste of the consumers, but to preserve the sweetness and body of those wines.

"These samples," he says, "obtained from the farmers whose names are given opposite, are as yet free from any addition of spirit, the wines being still in a state of incomplete fermentation, will probably generate an additional amount of strength in the tonel or vat. They do not represent the finest class of wines, but a secondary quality; the best sorts are

invariably fortified immediately after they are drawn from the press, in order to preserve their sweetness and body, as the manufacturers do not like to risk the safety of such wines by the omission of this operation."

The spontaneous and natural growth of alcoholic strength in Portuguese wines in cask, and the necessity of strengthening them with the alcohol of brandy or of old wines, are facts so clearly borne out by experience, that notwithstanding his pre-conceived ideas on the subject, Mr. Charles Bernard did not think fit to advance against this opinion another antagonistic in principle, and which could not be said to rest on any solid foundation, and it is for this reason that he says:—

"I cannot, however, set my own inexperience in those matters, too positively against the general tenor of opinion in Spain aud Portugal of those most deeply interested in the success and appreciation of their wines; and the entire sum of my information received while among them, is unmistakeably in favour of the extensive use of distilled spirit to strengthen, purify, and keep the wines they make."

Long experience had already clearly proved, in that country, that the alcoholic strength of Portuguese wines is, in its nature, apt to increase in a greater ratio than that of the wines of other countries, owing to the very fact that they contain in themselves a larger amount of alcohol, and further, because it is indispensable to strengthen them by foreign spirits, in order to maintain their intrinsic qualities on which their reputation mainly rests. But even if the slightest doubt were admissible on the subject, the experiments made by Mr. Charles Bernard would put an end to it. Those experiments point to 35·4 as the average amount of alcoholic strength in Portuguese wines prepared for the English market.

The English Government has caused the alcoholic strength of the wines of the principal wine-growing countries of Europe to be ascertained by Commissioners possessed of technical experience with a view to modifying the corresponding scale of dues, and to defer to the claims put forward by producers and dealers. The result of their investigations has proved beyond a doubt that the alcoholic strength of French wines, in the state in which they are usually exported, does not exceed 26 degrees of Sykes, whilst that of the Portuguese wines, in the only state in which they are fit for export, exceeds that limit.

The alcoholic scale was again altered, but, so far from making good the losses inflicted on Portugal, the change thus made not only failed to alter the differential nature of the duty which gave French and other wines important advantages over those of Portugal in the market, but actually increased the evil by making the duty even more differential than before.

The limit at present assigned to the duty of 1*s.* per gallon, is 26 degrees of Sykes, a limit which, in the English Commissioner's opinion, which is fully shared by those in France who are interested in the matter, is sufficient in this instance to subject all wines coming from thence to the tax, whilst a tax of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon weighs upon the Portuguese wines.

It was easy to foresee that such a differential system would have the very worst effect on Portuguese wine trade. English statistics confirm this view as will be seen from the following Table:—

TABLE showing the Comparative Amount of Imports of Portuguese and French Wines into England.

	Portugal.		France.	
	Imports.	Proportion which they bear to the whole amount consumed.	Imports.	Proportion borne to the whole amount consumed.
	Gallons.	Per cent.	Gallons.	Per cent.
1859	2,020,563	27·82	695,913	9·58
1862	2,350,434	23·96	1,901,200	19·39
1863	2,618,717	24·99	1,940,193	13·51
1864	2,831,163	24·71	2,305,756	20 12
1865	2,890,349	23 96	2,609,639	21·63

It must be admitted that the importation of Portuguese wines has increased from 2,020,563 gallons in 1859 to 2,890,349 gallons in 1865, but the proportion borne by those wines to the entire amount consumed has diminished from 27·82 per cent. to 23·96 per cent., whilst the proportion of French wines has risen from 9·58 per cent. to 21·63 per cent.

This is the point of view from which we must consider the results produced by the alcoholic scale adopted as the basis of English Customs legislation as regards wines.

Powerfully aided as they are by a differential duty, French wines daily gain ground in England to the detriment of those of Portugal.

If, in the course of competition, all were subjected to the same legal conditions, and if the advantage gained by French wines could be ascribed solely to changeableness in the taste of the consumers, Portugal would have no cause of complaint, but Portugal cannot but perceive that, so long as the import duty is of a differential nature, Government interference will forcibly divert the consumption of wine into another channel to the detriment of her own productions.

Were England clearly and positively to establish in her economic legislation a system specially favouring one nation to the prejudice of others, and to refuse the same conditions to other nations when they offer a just equivalent in return for them, she would be openly deserting those principles of commercial freedom which it is her boast to maintain. His Majesty's Government are, therefore, unwilling to believe that that of Great Britain intended indirectly to introduce into the laws of its country by means of an alcoholic scale specially framed for such a purpose, a system which is practically differential, and favours some nations to the detriment of others, but which, according to the letter, has the appearance of a system generally applicable to all.

Certain newspaper articles and pamphlets have, however, appeared in England, written with a view to damage the credit of port wine, and urging the English Government to repress, by means of a heavy duty, the taste shown by consumers for these wines: a taste which is stigmatized as a national disgrace and calamity.

It has been said that the taste for strong wines was not natural, but that its adoption had formerly been a necessity, owing to the differential duties established by the Methuen Treaty in favour of Portuguese wines, and that nothing but the force of habit perpetuated the demand for them. It was even maintained that the use of strong wines destroyed the delicacy of the palate and the taste for the flavour of light wines; in fact, there was no evil but was attributed to the use of strong wines, nor any advantage which it was conceived would not accrue to England from the moment that the taste for strong wines was repressed, and that for light wines encouraged.

"A child will drink pure wine and reject that which is fortified," said one author; "and hence it may be hoped, and there is comfort in the hope, that a great blessing will fall upon England if, by the introduction and encouragement given to the consumption of unbrandied wine, the rising generation should be led to abandon that which we call the acquired taste for strong wines, and drink only those of a pure and natural growth."

In 1861 a very distinguished statesman spoke as follows in Parliament:—

"The fact is, that the taste for wine in England is materially connected with the course of our politics; and the Revolution of 1688, but still more the Hanoverian succession and our wars with France, contributed greatly to alter the taste of the country, so that those who before loved light wines began to love strong wines. I believe it is on record that the University of Oxford, with which I have the honour to be intimately connected, petitioned Parliament against the grievance of laying heavy duties on light wines, and compelling them to drink port."

On these facts, as well as on others which it would be tedious to enumerate, rests the opinion that the present wine system in England practically amounts to a withdrawal of the advantages granted to Portuguese wines by the Methuen Treaty. If, therefore, the merchants and producers of Portugal have not on the one hand to deplore the loss of exceptional advantages, they may well, on the other hand, regret to see the establishment of a system calculated to act on the consumption of wine in England in a manner wholly opposed to their interests. And, again, if, on the one hand, they claim no privilege other than is practically conceded to their rivals in the market, so as to leave the decision between their respective merits and the taste and convenience of the consumer alone, they are, on the other hand, only defending the principles of commercial freedom and the rules of international equity, and it is for the maintenance of those principles and of those rules that they contend.

The King's Government could not be indifferent to this state of things, and with a view of putting an end to it, they have, through the Portuguese Legation in London, repeatedly requested the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to alter the alcoholic scale. But the British Government uniformly replied that this scale was not of partial, but of general, application, and that the state of the Revenue did not admit of their sacrificing the profits derived from it.

There can be no doubt that the present alcoholic scale does not, as a matter of course, constitute a differential system, but there can be as little doubt that practically it does

constitute such a system. Moreover, all the rules of economical science, all the lessons of practical experience, all statistical data, all the knowledge we possess of the social and commercial condition of England, as well as of the tendency of the present consumption of wine, induce a conviction that to replace the alcoholic scale, or to modify it as a basis on which to regulate the levy of wine duties, would, so far from lessening the revenue, rather tend to increase it.

In the hopes of arriving at a better result, His Majesty's Government has lately renewed its request, and proposed to negotiate a Treaty of Commerce, based on reciprocity of advantages. On this basis a complete change in the alcoholic scale, or at least such an alteration in it as would deprive the existing duty of its differential character, would of course be a necessary condition of the negotiation, not only because this is the principal advantage which His Majesty's Government could obtain, but also because it would be inconsistent with every principle, to conclude a Commercial Treaty with England which should maintain a differential duty prejudicial to the chief agricultural produce, and the chief article of export of Portugal.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty had this proposal examined by the Board of Trade, and in a note addressed to Count de Rilvas on the 7th of September last, Lord Stanley expresses the opinion of the English Cabinet on the subject.

The English Cabinet is of opinion that the high duties of the Portuguese Tariffs are opposed to the development of commerce, and that the Portuguese Government would do well to reduce those duties even in its own interest, and without reference to any steps which England might take in the matter. Lord Stanley supports this opinion by a reference to the experience acquired during recent years, which, according to the facts cited in the Memorandum annexed to his note, tends to prove that the reduction of exorbitant duties on exports contributes in a direct manner to the development of commerce, and to increase the revenue; and he particularly dwells upon the great increase of the commerce of England and France since the last reductions in the tariffs of both nations.

The reasons adduced by Lord Stanley have been under the consideration of His Majesty's Government, but they cannot adopt the measures suggested by him for reforming the Customs laws of Portugal, because the grounds on which he rests those suggestions, however incontrovertible in theory, are inapplicable to the question at issue. Granting even that His Majesty's Government are persuaded of the expediency of reducing the duties of her Tariffs in the interest of Portugal herself, they are bound in any case to seek the most favourable opportunity as well as the aptest means for so doing.

Now, as regards the line of conduct to be pursued, there is a choice of two systems :— that is, first, that of General Laws, and secondly, that of Commercial Treaties. In following the first of these systems the Portuguese Government would reduce the duties which weigh on foreign produce, and would say to all nations : " Our Customs restrictions are withdrawn —bring us your produce notwithstanding the fact that you yourselves exclude from your markets the richest produce of Portuguese industry and agriculture by means of a restrictive system, or of differential duties." In following the second of these systems, Portugal would be saying to other nations : " We wish to reduce the duties in our Tariffs and to enter into closer commercial relations with you, because we should thereby reap great advantages, but you have made Commercial Treaties, wherein you have established what practically amounts to preference or differential systems, which exclude from your markets the most important articles which our country exports, and as commerce consists in the exchange of produce, we shall be precluded from bettering our commercial relations so long as you do not practically concede to us the the treatment of the most favoured nation. Until then, we shall be obliged to adhere to the system to which you have given rise."

The first of these systems has already for a long while been advocated by J. B. Say, and has even at the present day been defended by several economists, especially by those who belong to what is termed the Manchester School. But the system of Commercial Treaties has been practically adopted by the most eminent statesmen, including the leaders and founders of the Manchester School, whenever they were called upon to direct or to participate in the public business of their country. In the special circumstances in which Portugal is placed, none of her statesmen charged with her interests and with the responsibility of providing for her future welfare, would adopt a different system.

In France, no Government has been able thoroughly to reform the Tariffs, except by means of Commercial Treaties. Louis XVIII was sincerely desirous of granting to France commercial freedom under certain restrictions, but the King's wishes, and the endeavours of Baron Louis, and of the other Ministers of the Government of the Restoration, were unable to effect even an important reduction in the dues levied on the bread of the people and of the manufacturing classes as well as on cereals and iron. Under the July Monarchy all the attempts at Tariff Reform failed in Parliament in consequence of the opposition

which they met from a coalition of all those who conceived their interests to be endangered. Under the Second Empire, the Government of Napoleon III, which, owing to the prestige of his name and glory, to his great ability and to the energy and firmness of his character, had overcome so much opposition, the Government of Napoleon himself was obliged in 1856 to withdraw a project for reforming the Tariffs, in consequence of the opposition it met with in the Legislative Body; and there is every reason to believe that the prohibitive or restrictive system would still be in vigour in France, were it not that the Emperor had availed himself of the right reserved to him by the Constitution of concluding Treaties of Commerce.

When in England, Mr. Huskisson brought in the Bill which invested the Crown with the power to suppress differential duties paid by foreign ships in English ports, he expressly stipulated for a reciprocity clause, binding other nations to treat with England on this basis. It was pursuant to this arrangement that the English Government soon afterwards concluded Treaties of Commerce with Prussia, Sweden, the Hans Towns, France, and the South American Republics. It is true that Sir R. Peel made sweeping reforms in the Customs Regulations of England by means of general laws applicable to all nations without exacting any sort of reciprocity: but in the circumstances under which those reforms were decreed, that eminent statesman could have recourse to no other system. The Reforms introduced by Sir R. Peel were measures so urgently required that they did not admit of the inevitable delays of a diplomatic negotiation. But one may cite further examples in English contemporary history which are more to the purpose.

In July 1856, Mr. Benjamin Oliveira, Member of Parliament, headed a Deputation which waited on Lord Palmerston, to point out to him how desirable it was to reduce the duties on wines by means of Commercial Treaties, and the Prime Minister answered that it was not in accordance with the policy of his administration to effect reductions of duties by means of conventions with foreign countries. A few years afterwards, however, the Cabinet presided over by Lord Palmerston sent Mr. Cobden to Paris to negotiate a Commercial Treaty with France, in which reductions in the duties on wines and several other articles were stipulated. Mr. Gladstone, who had long been aware of the expediency of reducing the duties on those articles, instead of doing so by a law universally applicable without reference to the commercial policy of other nations, awaited a fit opportunity to stipulate in a Treaty with France the reductions which he wished to effect, and which he might have accomplished even in the interest of England.

When M. Michel Chevalier apprized him that the time for doing so was come, Mr. Gladstone spared no effort to encourage and to facilitate the negotiation. And whilst Mr. Cobden was negotiating at Paris, Mr. Bright was busy in London making converts to the cause of Commercial Reform, to be brought about by the conclusion of International Treaties: so that both the illustrious founders of the Manchester School, as well as their most illustrious convert, agreed to sacrifice the dogma of their school to the welfare of their country. No one can blame them for doing so.

Commercial reforms are all the more productive, as they extend to other countries by means of reciprocity. If the English Government, able as it was by reducing its Tariffs to induce that of France to make similar concessions for the benefit of British trade, had sacrificed this great national interest to the exaggerated theory of a School, it would have made a mistake which the very followers of that School could not have forgiven. The documents annexed to Lord Stanley's note in themselves constitute the fullest justification it is possible to frame of commercial reforms based on Treaties of Commerce.

Since the Treaty of 1860, the increase of trade between England and France has been considerable—it may even be said to be immense. Yet, to what would that increase be confined if France had still continued her prohibitive system, notwithstanding the fact that the English Government had reformed its Tariffs? And, again, what possible justification for its conduct could a Ministry allege, which, although it had the power of obtaining so many advantages by means of economical reform, should consent to forego the majority of them in deference to the exaggerated principle of a School,—a principle which that School itself had already abandoned.

In economical matters, fixed principles and systems cannot exist. The Manchester economists have carried the system opposed to Commercial Treaties to such lengths, that the very leaders of their party would refuse to adopt it. J. B. Say, himself, does not absolutely condemn Commercial Treaties; so far indeed is he from doing so, that he pronounces in their favour whenever they tend to enhance the facility and increase the extent of relations with another country. "One cannot," says he, "blame the adoption of such means, if they attain the desired end." But, more than this, the Commercial Treaties condemned by Mr. Say, are those in which special conditions are stipulated, favouring one nation at the expense of others, who sooner or later suffer from the inequality thus produced. He condemns those Treaties which, instead of consolidating, have the effect of

disturbing peace, of which trade and industry are the surest guarantees, owing to the relations and to the community of economical interests which they establish between nations. "Industry," says Mr. Say, "is friendly to peace; there is something in the advantages conceded to any one nation in Commercial Treaties, which is hostile to all other nations, and from which they suffer sooner or later."

But these Commercial Treaties, which both in practice and theory establish the most favoured nation treatment, and the stipulations and corresponding Tariffs of which extend to all nations on condition of reciprocity; these Treaties, which aim at extending the action as well as the benefits of economical reforms, by inducing Governments by means of mutual advantages, to abolish Customs restrictions, and to remove the obstacles which hinder the development of foreign trade; these Treaties, which facilitate and increase the productiveness of reforms in the Customs Legislation of the countries which could compass them in no other way; these Treaties, in fine, which are founded on the bases, and conducted on the terms, and with the object for which they have been framed in modern times, and on which His Majesty's Government desires to conclude one with England, are not those which J. B. Say disapproves, nor such as his followers can condemn.

But more than this. Besides the general reasons above specified, His Majesty's Government are actuated by other reasons peculiarly affecting their country, for they attach great importance to a strict adherence to the commercial policy upon which they have entered, as well as to the proposals which they have had the honour to make to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty through Count Lavradio.

Portugal was the last country in Europe to establish a protective system, and was not the first of those who have followed the modern policy of Commercial Treaties. If she cannot claim the credit, she at all events declines to incur the responsibility attaching to the natural consequence of these facts.

The protective system was organized in Portugal in 1836, in accordance with the policy of legislation then in force in the other States of Europe; but numerous and powerful interests sprang up under the shelter of that system. His Majesty's Government acknowledge the inconvenience attending this system, and the advantages which accrue from a more liberal policy, and they are therefore willing to make every effort to ensure the success of those principles which they consider the soundest and most beneficial to the country in all matters affecting its foreign commerce. Yet, concurring as they do in the opinions of the most recognized authorities in economics, they are desirous that the transition should not be too rapid, and that the success of good principles should not inflict too heavy a loss on the interests which suffer by their adoption. They wish to treat those interests with all the consideration to which they are entitled, and which is compatible with the general welfare of the country. In Portugal, however, as in all other countries, when a reduction of Customs dues is contemplated, the interests likely to be affected by the reduction are apt to combine, as well as all persons who thrive or suppose they thrive under the shelter of the protective system.

In order to overcome such combinations and to allay the fears of various trades, destitute of self-reliance and swayed by prejudice, it is well to follow the example of England, France, and of other nations placed in circumstances identical, and perhaps more favourable, and to enlarge the scope of the home market in order to give due satisfaction to such branches of industry as are powerful and productive, and have fair prospects before them, the chief of which branches among ourselves is agriculture.

It is true that England has generalized the system adopted in her Conventions with other countries, but as regards wines, that system remained general but in name; for in practice it has never ceased to be exceptional and differential, as has been shown. Furthermore, neither France, Italy, Sweden, nor other nations possessing Tariffs founded on Conventions with foreign nations, have as yet generalized them, and in virtue of those special systems the products of Portugal are in a much less favourable position in those markets than similar products coming from other countries.

If under these circumstances, His Majesty's Government were to deviate from the commercial policy initiated by England and France, and to try to reduce its Customs duties without securing any sort of reciprocity, they would commit a serious error, which they could in no way justify, because, without dwelling on reasons which have always been valid, and on the examples furnished by recent experience, they cannot but remember the first experiment made by Belgium when, after adhering to a different policy when she perceived that all the endeavours of her diplomacy were insufficient to conclude advantageous Treaties, and that she was actually obliged to recede and to establish or maintain duties, with the sole object of acquiring means which could serve as a basis on which to negotiate.

Lord Stanley contends that the reductions in the English Tariff of 1860 were not

made exclusively in favour of France, but that they were applicable to all countries including even Portugal; and according to the Memorandum annexed to his note, those reductions were so calculated as to favour what Count Lavradio termed the most important of Portuguese products, namely, wine. If reductions made by one country in the dues which weigh on the produce of another can be considered in the light of a concession, it would appear that England has conceded beforehand what Portugal could now demand on the strength of the principle of reciprocity.

The increase in the export of French wines is represented as principally due to the reduction of the French Tariffs on the importation of foreign produce, because the commercial reforms which encourage imports have a like effect on exports, as is proved by the experience of recent years; and lastly, if the reduction of the English Tariff as regards wine duty was not profitable to Portugal in the same proportion, the fault lies with that country, because it maintains in its Tariff very heavy duties, and that in order to enjoy the concessions already made by England, it has only to encourage English trade by means of Customs reforms.

The explanations above given render it unnecessary for His Majesty's Government further to enlarge upon the subject in order to show that the remarks of Her Britannic Majesty's Government are hardly borne out by the facts of the case.

It is true that the wine duty was reduced by the Treaty with France from 1*s.* $9\frac{1}{10}$*d.* per gallon to a tax varying from 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* a gallon, and that this reduction was afterwards extended to the wines of other countries. But the new tax, as has been shown, was of a differential nature as regards Portuguese wines—a nature foreign to the tax previously levied. So far, therefore, from encouraging Portuguese wine trade, it was calculated to have, and it has at this moment, the very worst effect upon it. In view of the experience thus acquired, coming home to them as it does in all its grievousness and significance, His Majesty's Government think it superfluous to quote the experience of other countries and the opinions of economists in order to convince Her Britannic Majesty's Government that the original tax, higher indeed, but uniform and impartial in its action on the wines of all nations, was more profitable to Portugal than the reduced tax with its differential nature.

His Majesty's Government also believe that the other facts recorded in the Memorandum annexed to Lord Stanley's note cannot legitimately be invoked to prove that the reform of the English Tariff, in so far as it concerns the duties on wine, has been so framed as to favour the principal article of Portuguese exports.

The reduction of the duty on foreign brandies and spirits, and the raising of the duties on English and Colonial brandy and spirits, was especially calculated to favour France, for whose benefit they were in the first place virtually stipulated for in the Additional Article signed at Paris on the 25th of February, 1860, and by which Her Britannic Majesty engaged to recommend to Parliament the admission of brandy and spirits imported from France subject to a duty precisely equal to that levied on similar produce of English manufacture (excepting, of course, the additional duty destined to indemnify English producers for expenses incurred on account of the excise system). But no advantage could result to Portugal from their reduction of duties, a country which neither produces nor exports brandy or spirits on a large scale.

The suppression of differential duties in favour of English Colonial wines could doubtless contribute to the increased consumption of those wines which might compete with them in foreign markets. But the differential duty on more or less alcoholic wines deprived Portugal of this advantage, and conferred it upon countries whose wines, according to the experiments and inquiries made by the English Government Commissioners, were to be exempted from the heaviest duty, and for that very reason would compete at a greater disadvantage against English Colonial wines in the market.

His Majesty's Government acknowledge that the commercial reforms which tend to increase imports have a similar effect on exports, because the closest connexion exists between those economical processes. This is proved by science and confirmed by the experience not merely of recent years, but of all time. His Majesty's Government are, however, of opinion that consequences may be deduced from this doctrine, however incontrovertible in itself, which are at variance with those deduced from it by Lord Stanley. If commerce is the exchange of produce, if imports and exports stand in the closest relation to one another, of what use will it be for Portugal to reduce the duties in her Tariff on English produce so long as England maintains her own system, which is not only opposed to the increased export of Portugal's principal produce, but actually tends to diminish that export?

If it be true that those commercial reforms which give an increased impulse to imports have a like effect on exports, how was it that England did not begin by

encouraging the importation of Portuguese wines, by suppressing the differential duty which weighs upon them, in order to increase English exports in her own interests, and by those very means, the efficacy of which is so highly praised? If the trade between Portugal and England increases in a much less degree than the trade between England on the one hand, and France and Belgium on the other, the fault does not lie with Portugal, which under present circumstances, could not and ought not to reform its Customs laws by means of a measure universally applicable, which should fail to exact reciprocal advantages at the hands of those countries in whose markets Portuguese produce is less favoured than similar produce of other nations; but the fault lies with England, which, without justifiable motive, refuses to alter a system which prevents the increased importation of the principal produce of Portugal.

The legitimate conclusion deducible from the doctrine enounced by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and accepted by that of His Majesty, is not, therefore, that Portugal should reform her Tariffs by means of a measure generally applicable; but, on the contrary, that the English Government in the twofold interest of their own country, should agree to a Commercial Treaty from which they will derive not merely the advantages resulting from a change in the wine duties, but also those which will accrue to English trade and manufactures owing to those reductions which the Portuguese Government are disposed to make by way of reciprocity.

Lord Stanley further remarks that, according to the information in possession of the English Government, the alcoholic strength of the greater part of the Portuguese wines falls short of 26 per cent., and that, consequently, they might be imported into England subject to a duty of 1*s.* like the French wines if spirits were not mixed with them in quantities wholly uncalled for.

Again, he remarks that the taste and demand for cheap and light wines is increasing in England. Ten years ago the average price of French wines was nearly double that of Portuguese wines, and at present it is scarcely two-thirds higher than the price of Portuguese wines. The average price of French wines has decreased by 12*s.* and 13*s.* per gallon, whilst that of Portuguese wines ranges at about 6*s.*, and is therefore nearly the same as in 1854. The advantages obtained by France for her wines are due, in the first place, to her liberal policy as regards English imports, and in the second, to the way in which she seeks to meet the taste and demand for light and cheap wines. Thus Portugal, in the opinion of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, possesses the means of remedying the evil of which she complains, and the remedy would be twofold, consisting, 1st, in abandoning the practice of adding brandy to her wines; and 2ndly, in a reduction of the prices at which she sells them in the English market.

His Majesty's Government, however, consider that that of Her Britannic Majesty cannot have received information more trustworthy as regards the alcoholic strength of Portuguese wines, and the absolute necessity of mixing them with brandy or with old wine, than that furnished by the Commissioner sent to Portugal for the purpose of collecting information on the subject of wines, with reference more especially to the two points above specified. Moreover, the Report and its Annexes furnished to the English Government by its Commissioner, Mr. Charles Bernard, clearly shows not only that the alcoholic strength of Portuguese wines in the condition in which alone they are fit for export, can in no case fall short of 26 per cent. of spirit, according to English strength; but further, that it is absolutely indispensable to mix them with foreign spirits. It is true that Mr. Bernard adds the following in his Report:—

"The samples which I procured from the different vineyards in the district (Alto Douro) of the present year's growth were as yet free from extraneous spirit. They were, however, in a state of fermentation at the time, but sufficiently advanced for me to forward the samples Nos. 38 to 42, which show an average strength of 23·5 per cent. only."

In the first place, however, the samples numbered 38 to 42 cannot be considered to represent the majority of Portuguese wines alluded to by Lord Stanley when he endeavoured to show that Portuguese wines could be imported into England at a duty of 1*s.* per gallon; and, in the second place, Mr. Charles Bernard adds the following:—

"It is, however, to be expected, that in tonel a considerable increase of spirit may be generated. Mr. Fladgate, grower, &c., of Oporto, illustrated this to me by the following statement. He tried a sample of wine when drawn from the lagar, or press, in October 1860, and found it contained nearly 19 per cent. of spirit; in June 1861, the same wine drawn from the tonel showed 22·8 per cent.

Moreover, Portuguese wines are not exported to England in the state of fermentation in which Mr. Charles Bernard tested them, but only after they have been prepared and kept in cask for several months, or even years. But in no case could the wines gathered during the October vintage be exported to England before the month of June of

the ensuing year, and their natural alcoholic strength in its proportional development would consequently exceed 27 per cent. of spirit, by English strength. Furthermore, long experience points to the necessity of mixing foreign alcohol with the wines which form a staple Portuguese trade, in order to maintain the balance between the elements which make up their value, as is acknowledged by Mr. Charles Bernard in the passage above quoted, and as may be gathered from Mr. Harriss' letter, quoted by him in relation to the sample which he looks upon as the most important in connection with the question at issue.

"These two bottles of wine," he says, "have been in my possession upwards of fifteen years; they are of the vintage of 1834, and are taken from two lots made at the same time in the French style, and without a drop of brandy; the moment the fermentation was complete, the wine was bottled. The experiment was made to ascertain whether port wine could be so treated as to keep without brandy, and as we are now in the year 1861, the trial has completely succeeded; but the wine, though made in a good situation in the Alto Douro, and in a year remarkable for fine wines, was valued in London at about 8*l.* or 9*l.* per pipe, being considered excessively harsh and inferior to the common low wines of France. The cost to the maker could not be less than 25*l.* to 30*l.* per pipe, so that in a commercial point of view the failure could scarcely have been more disastrous."

It follows, therefore, that even if Portuguese wines could be preserved without the necessity of mixing foreign alcohol with them, the latter operation is indispensable, if the most complete depreciation in their value is to be avoided.

The averages of the alcoholic strength of the wine-growing districts of Portugal have been carefully ascertained by a technical Commission at the Agricultural Institute of Lisbon. Those averages are as follows :—

	Gay-Lussac.	Sykes' Table adopted by	
		Charles Bernard.	The Professors of the Agricultural Institute.
Braga	8	13	13·3
Coimbra	9	15	15
Aveiro	12	20	20·2
Guarda..	13	21·5	21·9
Bragança	14	23	23·6
Evora	14	23	23·6
Vizen	14	23	23·6
Lisboa	14	23	23·6
Portalegre	15	24	25·3
Villa Real	15	24	25·3
Faro	15	24	25·3
Castello Branco	16	25	27·1
Beja	16	25	27·1
Santarem	16	25	27·1

The districts of Braga, Coimbra, and Aveiro, only produce common wines ("vins verts") which are not exported to England, and the alcoholic strength of the wines of the other wine-growing districts which are pure and in their natural state increased by the strength which naturally develops itself, and by that which it is quite necessary to give them, in order to make them fit to be exported, will always exceed 26 per cent. of proof spirit.

His Majesty's Government trust that the above data will convince that of Her Britannic Majesty, that all Portuguese wines imported into England are unavoidably subjected to a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.*, or one twice and a half higher than that paid by the wines of France and other nations.

The reduction in price doubtless contributed to increase the consumption of French wines, and to give them great advantages in competition with others; but all the attempts of Portuguese agriculture, trade, or Government, to reduce the price of Portuguese wines proportionally, would be found wholly fruitless without the assistance of the English Government.

French wines come into the English market taxed with a duty of barely 1*s.* per gallon, whilst those of Portugal are taxed 2*s.* 6*d.* The amount of duty levied on the consumption of wines necessarily forms an integral part of the price at which they are sold. So long, therefore, as the English Government shall continue such a scale of differential, or rather, disproportionate duties in its Tariff, that scale will influence their price in the market.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government advises Portugal to sell wines to consumers at a cheap rate, in order to obtain the same advantage as France. The reasons set forth in Lord Stanley's note would, according to his Excellency's own words, lead to the inference that

the profits accruing to Portugal from a reduction of the import duties in her Tariff, would exceed those obtainable by England by means of a Reciprocity Treaty, and that moreover the alcoholic scale in no way damages the interests of the agriculture and wine trade of Portugal. But His Majesty's Government perceive with much pleasure that, notwithstanding the reasons above discussed, Her Britannic Majesty's Government state their willingness to entertain proposals on the subject, in the event of it seeming probable that the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce would assist the reforms which the Portuguese Government has in view.

This declaration is all the more welcome to His Majesty's Government, because they have found it difficult to understand on what grounds Her Britannic Majesty's Government persisted in maintaining a system detrimental to Portuguese interests, and productive of constant complaints and grievances.

His Majesty's Government had proposed as a basis for the negotiation a perfect reciprocity of advantages, and now points out that the most important of those advantages for Portugal would be a thorough change, or at least the modification of the alcoholic scale; so that the duty on Portuguese wines should cease to bear a differential character.

Her Britannic Majesty's Government do not think it possible wholly to abolish the alcoholic scale, but seem disposed to reduce the duty or to alter the limit of the scale, reserving to themselves the power of granting the same concessions to other countries.

His Majesty's Government offer no objection to the bases indicated by Lord Stanley, provided the limit of the scale be so fixed as not to weigh on Portuguese wines in the shape of a differential tax greatly detrimental to them. They believe, however, that the proposed reform would be highly advantageous, not only to wine-growing countries, but to England herself, were the duty reduced to a moderate tax, less than the minimum of present tax of 1*s.* per gallon.

Wine is now considered to be powerfully conducive to health and strength, and a thing of prime necessity, particularly for an essentially manufacturing people to whom labour brings riches, prosperity, glory, and in short everything.

There was a time when the prevailing opinion in England was, that in the interest of health and morality, it was proper to restrict by means of heavy duties the consumption of foreign wines and particularly of those of Portugal, and to foster that of spirits and made wines of home manufacture. But their opinion, or rather prejudice, must have completely fallen to the ground in consequence of the analysis to which competent and impartial judges subjected pure and artificial wines, as well as spirits and those heating drinks (" boissons chaudes ") made by means of the fermentation of grains of corn, of feculæ, or of fruits for the most part damaged.

Dr. Richardson says that the use of beer sooner or later produces disease of the brain, and after describing port wine as the best remedy to prevent some maladies and to cure others, and absolutely necessary for the preservation of health, adds, " God help those who cannot afford it; for neither porter, ale, nor gin supply its place." Mr. Redding regretted, that whilst typhus fever was raging in England, wine, the best remedy against it was not obtainable by the poor, owing to the heaviness of the duty, particularly as they were precluded from using quinine from its excessive dearness, " which," says he, " is a positive cruelty."

The English Treasury has never been so prosperous, nor have circumstances ever been so propitious for a reform, which must needs be eminently popular in England. The facts enumerated in the memoranda annexed to Lord Stanley's note, would constitute the fullest and most convincing answer to the argument, that the reduction of the duty would diminish the revenue. The reductions made in the English Tariff since 1842 have been great and thoroughgoing, but the revenue has nevertheless continued very nearly the same. Now, if there is an article in which the reduction of duties must produce an increase of consumption as well as of revenue, it is assuredly wine; for, as is shown by statistics, the tendency to increase is already so powerful that it overcomes the obstacles opposed by the heavy duties now levied, to which, more than to any other duties, the words of the great Adam Smith are applicable, when he says that they " have reduced the revenues of the Customs beyond what moderate duties would have afforded."

For these reasons His Majesty's Government conceive that that of Her Britannic Majesty would be willing to accept such compensations as could be offered to them, in order to bring about a reform already imperatively required by the commercial interests and the wants of the labouring classes of their community, and moreover in thorough conformity with a policy which may be said to be traditional and generally approved by all parties in England, owing to the fact that it has been handed down to them together with the fame of their most distinguished statesmen.

In the meantime, if Her Britannic Majesty's Government consider that the time for effecting such a reform has not yet arrived, His Majesty's Government will accept the means proposed by Lord Stanley, namely, such alteration in the limit of the scale as will deprive the duty on wine of the differential character which it now has. A reduction of the duty which should not alter that limit would not effectually remedy the injustice of which Portugal complains, because such a duty would still preserve its differential nature in favour of the wines of other nations.

The alteration of the limit in the scale, in raising it to a degree which, as regards duty, should place Portuguese wines on the same level with others, which in the present limit pay much less duty, although their market value is far higher, is entirely conformable with the principles of justice which should regulate the distribution of taxes, and cannot incur serious opposition, from whatever point of view it is regarded.

In a financial point of view the decrease of revenue would be proportionally trifling. The wines of Portugal and some of those of Spain now pay the duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* But supposing even that the wines imported into England from those countries were subject to the same duty, the decrease of the revenue, calculated by the average of the entire imports of both countries during the years 1863, 1864, and 1865, which amounted to 7,680,063 gallons, would amount to 576,004*l.*

Everything, however, tends to show that this diminution would be immmediately compensated by the increase of consumption which would ensue, which the duty now levied, owing rather to its differential nature than to its amount, is calculated to restrict and has actually restricted. But even if the compensation did not take place by this means, it would be brought about on a far larger scale by the advantage resulting to English trade and manufactures from the reductions which His Majesty's Government, in a spirit of reciprocity, are willing to make in the duties which weigh on several of the principal articles imported from England.

It is true that, viewing the subject in a fiscal point of view, it has been said in favour of the alcoholic scale, that it is necessary, in order to prevent the frauds which would be occasioned by the importation and distillation of wines strongly impregnated with spirits, to the prejudice of that branch of the revenue which is derivable from the Customs duties or the excise on brandy. To show how little ground there is for this apprehension, it is sufficient to recall the fact that in reality the most brandied wines scarcely pay one-fourth of the duty paid on brandy itself. It is not therefore the high rate of the duty levied on brandied wines which prevents fraud. Fraud is difficult of accomplishment for other and obvious reasons. Between the duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* paid even on those Portuguese wines which contain the largest amount of spirits, and that of 10*s.* paid on brandy, and every other drink imported under the name of wine, and containing more than 42 per cent. of spirits according to English strength, the difference is sufficiently great to give rise to this sort of contraband trade even where it is possible; at any rate the limit at present fixed at 42 per cent. is unfavourable to it.

In a commercial point of view the reform of which we treat offers advantages not merely with reference to the extent of operations, but likewise with regard to their safety. Under the present system commerce has no sure basis on which to establish its calculations, because the wine which is in the producer's cellar or in the exporter's warehouse has 23 or 24 per cent. of proof spirit, may, in consequence of the spontaneous increase of alcohol, contain upwards of 26 per cent. by the time it is imported, and be, therefore subjected to a duty greatly exceeding that upon which the exporter has calculated.

The last observation made by Lord Stanley now alone remains to be cunsidered, namely, that in view of the Treaties and principles in force in England, all the advantages extended to the strongly brandied wines of Portugal, would be equally applicable to wines of the same quality produced by other countries,

His Majesty's Government never intended to ask England a concession of a special system in favour of their own produce which could not immediately be extended to that of other nations.

His Majesty's Government do not, on the one hand, share several of the opinions set forth as regards the Treaty of 1703, called the Methuen Treaty, but, on the other, they affirm that they do not purpose taking it as a model for the new Treaty which they propose to make. Whoever attributes the taste and demand for Portuguese wines in the English market to the action of the differential duties established by the Methuen Treaty, does not impartially judge the economical history of England. Differential duties have on different occasions been established and maintained for several years in English Tariffs for very different reasons. And if Portugal, on the one hand, does not exact a special system for herself in the English Customs laws, she complains of them as practically

establishing an unjustifiable inequality to the detriment of her principal article of export. The present system aggravates, whilst it changes, the state of things created by the Methuen Treaty in 1703.

In virtue of this Treaty, Portuguese wines were imported into England under a duty less by one-third than that levied on French wines, whilst at present they pay a duty twice and a-half heavier than French wines.

In Portugal, agriculturists, traders, and Government combine in endeavouring to improve the cultivation of wine. The abolition of the restrictive system, in which England seemed to be so interested, and which she has so frequently solicited, will produce a considerable reduction in the sale prices in England so soon as the differential duty shall not cease to counteract the salutary effect of this measure.

When Portugal thus prepares to enter the lists of competition, availing herself of the natural conditions by which the Almighty has secured the excellence of her produce, England, her ancient ally—England, who introduced free trade into Europe—can surely not insist on the continuance of the inequality which, by means of legal guarantees, secures the preponderance of the wines of other nations in the European market.

To conclude, His Majesty's Government could not, without detriment to the country's most important interests, renounce the commercial policy which they have adopted, and in virtue of which they have proposed a commercial Treaty founded on reciprocity to the English Government. No justifiable motive existed to induce Her Britannic Majesty's Government to refuse the conditions essential to the success of such a negotiation, namely, the complete change or modification of the alcoholic scale.

Her Majesty's Government have declared that they are willing to entertain this proposal, and they have thereby given the surest proof of the feelings of justice which animate them, as well as of their adherence to, and of their faithful interpretation of, the principles professed by the school of economists.

In accepting this declaration of the British Government, that of His Most Faithful Majesty trust that the negotiation thus begun may shortly lead to the conclusion of a Treaty which, whilst it fully meets the requirements of the trade of both countries, may prove a new pledge of the cordial friendship which has united them from the remotest times.

Portuguese Legation, London, October 6, 1866

No. 16.

Lord Stanley to M. de Rilvas.

M. le Comte, *Foreign Office, October* 10, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note inclosing a Memorandum on the subject of the proposed negotiations for a Treaty of Commerce between this country and Portugal, and expressing the wish of your Government that full powers should be issued to the Plenipotentiary of Her Majesty, to enable him to commence the negotiations in question.

I beg, in reply, to inform you that this matter is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, whose views thereupon I will not fail to communicate to you as soon as they shall have been ascertained.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 17.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 28.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, October* 20, 1866.

ON various occasions since I had last the honour of addressing your Lordship on the subject of the proposed Commercial Treaty between Portugal and Great Britain, M. Cazal Ribeiro has spoken to me in terms which leave no doubt on my mind of the great and paramount importance which the present Cabinet of Lisbon attach to the speedy negotiation of such an instrument on the basis of some concession in favour of Portuguese wines.

His Excellency has on all these occasions renewed with great eagerness promises of copious concession on the part of Portugal in return for such a concession on our part,

and arguments which, from the Portuguese point of view at least, appear very cogent in support of the proposals which the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires has been instructed to make to your Lordship for the admission of Portuguese wines under a lower scale of duty than that to which they are now subjected; and he has urged me again and again to recommend those proposals to the favourable consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

On all these occasions I have replied, that both your Lordship's impartiality of mind, and readiness to consider fairly all sides of a question, as also the great importance which the Portuguese Government not unnaturally attach to the solution of this particular question in a sense favourable to the interests so ably and warmly advocated by his Excellency, no less than the greatly increased activity of British exports to this country, which I doubted not would be the speedy result of any comprehensive reduction of the present Portuguese import duties on foreign manufactures were so many guarantees for the friendly disposition and candid attention with which his Excellency's proposals were sure to be received and examined by Her Majesty's Government.

No. 18.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 28.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, October 22, 1866.*

AT my interview with his Excellency, M. Cazal Ribeiro asked me whether I had lately received any despatches from your Lordship on the subject of the proposed Commercial Treaty.

I replied that I had not heard from your Lordship on this subject by the last mail, but that the proposals lately submitted to the notice of Her Majesty's Government in the name of the Portuguese Government, by Count de Rilvas, could not, I apprehended, have been laid before your Lordship many days before the departure of the mail-packet from Southampton. Those proposals were for an important modification in the existing scale of the alcoholic duties, and would doubtless demand reference to many Departments of the Government, the result of which would, no doubt, be maturely considered by the Cabinet. I did not, therefore, anticipate the possibility of any reply to the Portuguese proposals for some time to come; and I thought that, in the meanwhile, his Excellency might rest satisfied with the general tenour of your Lordship's language on this subject, as reported by Count Lavradio, and look upon no news, for the present, as not otherwise than good.

M. C. Ribeiro admitted this, and expressed himself as very hopeful; but, at the same time, extremely anxious that the proposed Treaty should be negotiated with the least possible delay, and the basis of it, at least, agreed to before the opening of the Cortes, which meets next January.

I have told M. Cazal Ribeiro that I can hardly anticipate the possibility, under any circumstance, of the negotiations being brought so far forward as he wishes by the month of January next.

No. 19.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 11.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, December 6, 1866.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note dated the 3rd instant, which I have received from M. Cazal Ribeiro, relative to the delay which has taken place in the negotiation for a Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Portugal, and urging, for the reasons therein specified, the desirableness of no further time being lost in their prosecution.

I have likewise the honour to inclose a copy of the answer which I have addressed to the Portuguese Minister, and which I trust may meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Senhor Ribeiro to Sir A. Paget.

(Translation.) *Foreign Office, Lisbon, December* 3, 1866.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to make the following statement to Sir Augustus Paget, &c.

It is now about six years since the wines of Portugal imported into England have been subject to a duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon, or 14*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per pipe, while, at the same time, the wines of France and other nations pay only a duty of 1*s.* or 5*l.* 15*s.* per pipe. This regulation which is so sensibly differential *de facto*, if not *de jure*, has been the cause of serious losses to Portuguese trade, and has given rise to urgent and just complaints.

The Government of His Majesty has on different occasions requested Her Britannic Majesty's Government to abolish or to alter the alcoholic scale upon which that regulation was based but without effect. Nevertheless, the reasons in support of this demand were so weighty that His Majesty's Government could not but continue to hope that they would make some impression on the enlightened mind of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

A short time ago Count Lavradio was instructed to propose to Her Britannic Majesty's Government the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty upon a basis of a fair reciprocity of advantages. The abolition, or at least the alteration of the alcoholic scale was to be an essential condition of this negotiation, not only because it was the principal advantage which Her Majesty's Government could obtain, but also because it was repugnant to every principle to conclude a Commercial Treaty with England which would leave in force this differential duty upon the most valuable agricultural product of Portugal, and upon its most important article of export. According to these terms Count Lavradio made his proposal to Lord Stanley on the 16th of August last.

In reply thereto Lord Stanley addressed a note to Count de Rilvas, dated September 7, wherein he endeavoured to show that Portugal ought to reduce the duties of its Customs Tariff in its own interest, and independently of any act on the part of England. He however added the following words:—"Nevertheless, if it should appear probable that the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty will facilitate the measures which the Portuguese Government appears to have in view, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to entertain the proposal."

In the memorandum addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Government through the Portuguese Legation in London, His Majesty's Government proved that in the interests of its own country it ought not to reduce the duties of its Customs Tariff except by means of Commercial Treaties, and that, therefore, the negotiation which it had proposed was an essential condition to the carrying out of its programme of commercial policy. His Majesty's Government had, therefore, the right to hope, inasmuch as the British Government had declared themselves ready to entertain the proposal made by Count Lavradio, that Sir Augustus Paget would be furnished with the full powers necessary for that purpose.

His Most Faithful Majesty's Government having, however, been disappointed in this hope which was so pleasing to it, and in spite of the assurance received that this subject was under the serious consideration of the Board of Trade, the Undersigned faithfully interpreting the sentiments of friendship and loyalty entertained by His Most Faithful Majesty and his Government towards England, thinks it his duty to call the attention of Sir Augustus Paget to the consequences which may ensue from delay in the negotiations, and to decline from this moment all responsibility for the loss which may accrue therefrom to the mutual industry and commerce of the two countries.

The Portuguese Government is bound to present to the Cortes during the next Legislative Session, which commences on the 2nd of January, a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation which was concluded and signed with France in July last. By this Treaty considerable reduction of the Customs duties upon several industrial and agricultural products are stipulated.

In virtue of the IVth Article of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of July 3, 1842, which is in force between Portugal and England, each of the Contracting Powers bound itself not to grant any favour, privilege, or immunity whatever with respect to commerce and navigation, to the subjects or citizens of any other State which should not also, and at the same time, be gratuitously extended to the subjects of the other Contracting Party, provided the concession in favour of that other State should have been itself gratuitous; and to afford as much as possible the same or equivalent compensation in the case where the concession should have been conditional. This was the form used

at the time and in identic Treaties by the respective Contracting Parties, for the purpose of guaranteeing the reciprocal treatment of the most favoured nation. It was also the form in which Portugal guaranteed the same treatment to the several nations with which it concluded Commercial Treaties.

Were Portugal to waive the stipulated reservations, and to extend gratuitously to England the concessions which it has made to France in return for fair compensation, it would be bound to extend them to all other nations, and thus would give up the only means in its power of obtaining for its industrial and agricultural products the same treatment which is enjoyed by similar products of other nations in important markets.

But as Portugal cannot gratuitously extend to England the concessions made to France if a new Treaty with England is not ratified at the same time as the Treaty with France, some products of British industry will be placed in an unfavourable position in the Portuguese markets compared with similar products of French industry.

The Portuguese Government has already declared to that of Her Britannic Majesty that it was disposed to effect in favour of England much more important reductions in the Customs duties than those which it made in favour of France, because, inasmuch as all Treaties of Commerce ought to be based upon a fair reciprocity, it is also in the power of England to offer more valuable compensation. If, therefore, the industry and commerce of England should be placed in an unfavourable position, or deprived for some time of the advantage of those reductions, the fault cannot be imputed to the Portuguese Government, and the more so as it is certain that what this Government asks in return for these reductions is what is urgently demanded by British trade itself, viz., the abolition or alteration of the alcoholic scale upon which the wine duties are based. The Undersigned is of opinion that it is still time to prevent the above inconvenience, because the conclusion of a new Treaty of Commerce ought not to meet with any great difficulties or delays, especially if it is negotiated at Lisbon, when once the principal basis is accepted, as it was in Lord Stanley's note.

Requesting Sir A. Paget to cause these considerations which have been set forth to be brought to the knowledge of his Government, the Undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Sir A. Paget to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, December 6, 1866.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which M. Cazal Ribeiro, His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has been pleased to address to him under date of the 3rd instant, in which his Excellency, after referring to the communications which have passed between Lord Stanley, Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Portuguese Legation in London, relative to a proposal made by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Portugal, expresses his disappointment that the Undersigned has not been furnished with full powers to negotiate this Treaty, and declines for the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty the responsibility of any consequences unfavourable to the trade and commerce of the two countries which may result from delay in the negotiations. M. Cazal Ribeiro expresses the opinion, however, that there is still time to prevent any inconvenience of the above nature, "because the conclusion of a Treaty of Commerce ought not to meet with any great difficulties or delays, especially if it is negotiated at Lisbon, when once the principal basis is accepted as it was in Lord Stanley's note."

The Undersigned need hardly assure M. Cazal Ribeiro that he will lose no time in sending a copy of his Excellency's present communication to Her Majesty's Government, who will not fail to give to it the consideration which the importance of the subject demands. But the Undersigned would fail in his duty if he did not at once address to M. Cazal Ribeiro one or two observations which are suggested by the perusal of his Excellency's note.

The Undersigned would beg leave to recall to M. Cazal Ribeiro's recollection that, in the first interview which he had the honour to have with his Excellency after his arrival at Lisbon, the Undersigned expressed, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, a desire to be furnished with some more precise information as to the reductions which the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty might be disposed to make in favour of

British commerce in the event of Her Majesty's Government consenting to an alteration of the alcoholic scale which should be favourable to Portuguese wines, and the Undersigned was in hopes that, in the note which his Excellency has done him the honour to address to him, he should have found the information in question. He was the more justified in entertaining this hope from the circumstance that the extent of the modification of the alcoholic test, which M. Cazal Ribeiro mentioned to the Undersigned as being absolutely essential to the interests of the Portuguese wine trade, exceeded by very much, as the Undersigned had at the time the honour to observe to his Excellency, anything which Her Majesty's Government had hitherto contemplated.

The memorandum communicated to Lord Stanley by Count Lavradio relative to the reductions in the Tariff, referred to in the same interview by M. Cazal Ribeiro, is incomplete. Several important articles of British commerce are omitted to be mentioned, while the list contains other articles on which a reduction would perhaps be more beneficial to other countries than to Great Britain. The Undersigned, however, recalls with satisfaction the assurance given him by M. Cazal Ribeiro, that further reductions than those specified in the Memorandum referred to, would be made by the Portuguese Government, and he also does not fail to notice the further assurance in his Excellency's note, that the reductions in favour of British trade, in the event of the negotiation of a Treaty of Commerce, would be greater than those accorded to France by the Treaty lately concluded with that country. But the Undersigned must at the same time observe, that the information as yet possessed by Her Majesty's Government on this subject does not afford sufficient data whereon to base a calculation as to the degree in which any loss to the revenue, which may possibly arise by the alteration of the alcoholic test, will be compensated by the reductions in the Portuguese Tariff on imports from Great Britain, and the Undersigned must consequently, on his side, decline for Her Majesty's Government any responsibility which may attach to delay in the negotiations for a Treaty of Commerce with Portugal.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 20.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 19.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, December* 13, 1866.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 6th instant, I have the honour to inclose a translation of a further note which I have received from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to the note which I had addressed to his Excellency on the 6th instant, relative to the delay imputed to Her Majesty's Government in the negotiations for a Commercial Treaty.

I cannot say that the supplementary list of articles, on which the Portuguese Government declares its readiness to make reductions, appears to me to contain much additional information, but I must call your Lordship's attention to that phrase in M. Cazal Ribeiro's note wherein he states that he "would not hesitate to declare that His Majesty's Government will not refuse to make any reduction to the advantage of England unless there should be weighty reasons to do so." I have, nevertheless, felt it impossible to allow his Excellency's present communication to pass without a reply, for he appears to me to wish to make it appear that your Lordship had already committed yourself to the terms proposed by the Portuguese Government as regards the alcoholic scale, and that this Government has given all the information which can be required of it when it states, in general terms, its readiness to make a reduction in the tariff on British goods.

Your Lordship will see by the inclosed copy of my answer to M. Cazal Ribeiro the manner in which I have treated both these points, and I trust it may meet with your approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. PAGET

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Senhor Ribeiro to Sir A. Paget.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, December* 8, 1866.

THE Undersigned, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has before him the note which Sir A. Paget, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary did him the honour to address to him on the 6th instant, and in which his Excellency makes a few observations tending to decline, for the British Government, all responsibility, on account of the delay in the new negotiations of the new commercial Treaty between Portugal and Great Britain.

Sir A. Paget observes that, at the first interview which he had with the Undersigned, he expressed to him, on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, their wish for more precise information with regard to the reductions which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government would be willing to make in favour of British Trade, in case Her Britannic Majesty's Government should agree to an alteration of the alcoholic scale so as to favour Portuguese wines; that he had hoped to find this information in the note which the Undersigned addressed to him, and this hope was the more justified from the fact that the extent of the modification of the alcoholic scale, which the Undersigned had pointed out as being essential to the interests of the wine trade of Portugal, exceeds, by very much, anything which Her Britannic Majesty's Government had hitherto contemplated; that the memorandum communicated to Lord Stanley by Count Lavradio was incomplete. Several important articles of British trade were omitted therein, while mention was made of other articles the reduction of duty upon which would be of greater advantage to other countries than to England. And, in fine, that in spite of the assurance which the Undersigned had given Sir A. Paget that the reductions in favour of British trade would be far more considerable than those granted to France by the Treaty recently concluded with that country, Her Britannic Majesty's Government did not yet possess sufficient data for the purpose of calculating how far any loss to the revenue which might arise from the alteration of the alcoholic scale, would be compensated by the reduction of the duties in the Portuguese Tariff on imports from Great Britain, and that, consequently, he ought, on his side, to deliver, for Her Britannic Majesty's Government, all responsibility which might ensue from the delay in the negotiations of a commercial Treaty with Portugal.

The Undersigned entertains a due regard for the observations made by Sir A. Paget, &c., but, nevertheless, he thinks it his duty to insist upon the opinion which he expressed in his previous note of the 3rd instant, for it appears to him that neither the reasons nor the facts adduced by his Excellency will ever be able to substantiate the fault which is imputed and cause the responsibility for the losses which may accrue to the mutual commerce between the two countries to fall upon the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty—a responsibility which Sir A. Paget endeavours to decline for Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

The negotiations have been entered into since August last. According to the terms of the proposal made by Count Lavradio, the basis of the new Treaty ought to be a fair reciprocity of advantages, for, otherwise, it would not meet the sincere wishes of the High Contracting Parties to draw closer the ties of mutual good-will and friendship which unite the two countries. A Treaty based upon the convenience of one of those Parties only or in which there should be a great inequality of advantages would neither be able to resist a discussion under a rule of ample liberty and publicity, nor would it be a pledge of concord and friendship between the two countries and their respective Governments. The abolition, or, at least, an alteration of the alcoholic scale, was, if not the only, at least the most important advantage which England could grant to Portugal, and ought, therefore, to be an essential condition of the negotiation. The advantages offered in return ought to consist, with respect to navigation, in the abolition of the differential fifth, and with respect to trade in reductions of the duties of the Portuguese Tariff on the principal articles of importation from Great Britain into Portugal and which were mentioned by Count Lavradio to Lord Stanley.

In the note which was forwarded in reply to Count de Rilvas, Lord Stanley states that Her Britannic Majesty's Government were prepared to entertain the proposal made by Count Lavradio "if it were likely that this would tend to facilitate the reforms which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government had in view," and that, accordingly, he would have no difficulty in altering the alcoholic scale, reserving to himself the right of rendering the benefit of that alteration extensive to other nations.

The fact that the negotiations of a new Treaty of Commerce with England, upon the

basis proposed by Count Lavradio, is an indispensable condition in carrying out the programme of commercial policy which has been adopted by His Majesty's Government, and which it cannot abandon, is proved in the Memorandum which was addressed to Her Britannic Majesty's Government by the Portuguese Legation in London; and the Undersigned is willing to believe that the facts and arguments set forth in that Memorandum did not leave the slightest doubt, and created the most complete certainty, with respect to this matter upon the enlightened mind of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, who, by the bye, were contented with a mere probability in order to enter into negotiations, and thus to show their good wishes to promote the development of international trade and to draw closer the ties of mutual friendship which unite the two countries. But any alteration of the alcoholic scale, which would not take away from the duty imposed at present upon Portuguese wines its differential character, could not, it is evident, satisfy the interests affected thereby, and the just complaints made by the commerce and agriculture of Portugal, and, consequently, the idea that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government would rest satisfied with such an alteration was naturally and expressly excluded.

When, therefore, Her Britannic Majesty's Government declared themselves willing to modify the alcoholic scale in such a manner as would be favourable to Portuguese wines, they afforded His Majesty's Government grounds to hope that the modification in question would not differ much from that of which the Undersigned had the honour to speak to Sir A. Paget.

His Majesty's Government has already on several occasions stated that it is willing to make, upon the basis of a just reciprocity, important reductions of the duties levied in the Tariff on the principal articles of importation from England. These articles were mentioned by Count Lavradio, and the Undersigned has no difficulty in mentioning others according to the list inclosed herewith. But, when once the basis of a just reciprocity is accepted, the amount and extent of those reductions must depend upon the compensations offered. To point out the precise quantum of those reductions would be equivalent to drawing up beforehand, and without being furnished with the requisite information, the whole Conventional Tariff which must be annexed to the Treaty. Upon this point His Majesty's Government has already given the British Government all the information which it was in its power to give, but, if further proofs were still required to show the good wishes which animate it with a view to the active prosecution of the negotiations which have been commenced, the Undersigned would not hesitate to declare that His Majesty's Government will not refuse to make any reduction to the advantage of England unless there should be weighty reasons to do so. And thus the Undersigned is willing to believe that, with a view to the prosecution of the negotiations which have been commenced under such good auspices and in accordance with Lord Stanley's statement, Her Britannic Majesty's Government will not wait for the realisation of conditions which, according to the customs generally received, constitute, and cannot but substitute, the subject of such negotiations themselves.

In the Memorandum which he had the honour to address to Her Britannic Majesty's Government through the Portuguese Legation in London, His Most Faithful Majesty's Government has already stated that it could not be a matter of doubt, from the most incontestable principles of financial science, from the most legitimate consequences taught by experience, from the words and example of economists and statesmen held in best repute, that an increased consumption would make good any loss which any alteration of the alcoholic scale or even a reduction of the duties on wine might cause to the revenue of the British Treasury; but that in any case such a loss would be largely compensated by the advantages which the commerce and industry of England would derive from the reduction of the duties on imports into Portugal. The sacrifices of revenue, and the advantages derived from reductions in the Tariff duties cannot be mathematically calculated and compared, more especially between two countries whose financial conditions are very different, because both those sacrifices and advantages depend upon the financial and industrial state, upon the tendencies of consumption, and upon many other circumstances which it is impossible to represent in figures. But the comparison under a financial point of view of the advantages which the two countries will mutually grant each other, and the demonstration that the compensations offered will be great, and that the principle of reciprocity will be faithfully observed on the part of Portugal, are reserved by His Majesty's Government for the time when alone they can be properly made, that is, in the course of the negotiations.

The responsibility inherent to the delay in the negotiations in question cannot therefore be imputed to His Majesty's Government on the ground that it has not yet furnished Her Britannic Majesty's Government with sufficient and precise information as to the

reductions which it is disposed to make in the Tariff duties on articles of importation from England. But in any case the Undersigned ventures to hope that Her Britannic Majesty's Government and the enlightened opinion of both countries will render full justice to the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

(Translation.)

LIST, showing the Articles on which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is willing to make reductions in the Customs Duties, to the advantage of British Industry and Commerce.

Cod-fish (salt).	Works not specified made of hides, including hardwares and house ornaments, and harness.
Woollen manufactures.	Carriages.
Mixed silk textures.	Sundry chemical products.
Textures made up or worked.	Perfumery.
Glass and crystal.	Umbrellas and parasols.
Porcelain and delft-wares.	Shoes, &c.
Iron work, and other metals.	Haberdashery.
Wood work, including furniture.	

Navigation.

The abolition of the differential fifth on imports in indirect trade, and the same treatment as given to the national flag, both with regard to direct and indirect inter course.

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Sir A. Paget to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, December 13, 1866.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, begs leave to acknowledge the receipt on the 10th instant of the note of the 8th instant, which his Excellency Senhor Cazal Ribeiro, His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has done him the honour to address to him, in reply to certain observations which, under the date of the 6th instant, the Undersigned had felt it his duty to make to Senhor Cazal Ribeiro upon his Excellency's note of the 3rd instant, as to the delay which had taken place in the negotiations for a Commercial Treaty proposed to Her Majesty's Government by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

The Undersigned is desirous to avoid a controversial correspondence upon this subject, and he would therefore be disposed to confine his reply on the present occasion to the simple assurance that no time would be lost in placing Her Majesty's Government in possession of a copy of his Excellency's note, but there is one part in it which, in order to avoid the possibility of any misunderstanding at a future time, he is unable to pass over in silence.

Senhor Cazal Ribeiro, after quoting from Lord Stanley's note to Count Rilvas, dated the 7th September, to the following effect, viz.: "That Her Britannic Majesty's Government were prepared to entertain the proposal made by Count Lavradio, if it were likely that this would tend to facilitate the reforms which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government had in view," proceeds to state, "and accordingly he" (Lord Stanley) "would have no difficulty in altering the alcoholic scale, reserving to himself the right of rendering the benefit of that alteration extensive to other nations."

With reference to this observation, the Undersigned is bound to declare that after having reperused with the utmost attention the note of Lord Stanley to Count Rilvas, he is unable to discover any phrase which will bear the construction that the British Government "would have no difficulty in altering the alcoholic scale."

Lord Stanley begins his note to Count Rilvas by urging the Portuguese Government to modify their existing Tariff in the interest of Portugal herself. His Lordship points out the advantages which other countries have derived from a reduction of their Tariff; and adds that "Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that Portugal, like other countries, would find her advantage in the adoption of a less restrictive commercial policy." And further: "If the reduction by one country of duties falling on the produce of another is to be called a concession, it appears that this country (England) has

conceded in advance what Portugal might fairly claim from her on the basis of reciprocity."

"These considerations" (to quote another part of his Lordship's note) "would lead to the conclusion that it is now rather the interest of Portugal to reduce her own import duties, than the interest of this country (England) to enter into a Treaty of Reciprocity with her. England, indeed, has already done her part; since 1842 she has, as will be seen from the inclosed Memorandum, without asking for any corresponding concessions, reduced or taken off all duties from most of the articles which Portugal does or might export, and has reduced them very considerably upon that which forms the staple of her produce." It is only after having stated this much that Lord Stanley adds, "nevertheless, if it should appear probable that the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty will facilitate the measures which the Portuguese Government appears to have in view, Her Majesty's Government are prepared to entertain the proposal."

But his Lordship then proceeds to state how, according to information furnished to Her Majesty's Government, Portuguese wines might be made to come within the 1*s.* duty, according to the existing alcoholic scale; and concludes his note by pointing out that "any concessions which Her Britannic Majesty might make in this matter must, in accordance with her obligations under Treaty, as well as with the established principles of this country, be made equally to other countries as to Portugal."

It appears, therefore, to the Undersigned that it was Lord Stanley's purpose to combat rather than to encourage the proposal concerning an alteration of the alcoholic scale, and that if finally his Lordship did express a readiness to enter into negotiations for a Commercial Treaty, it was solely with a view "to facilitate the measures which the Portuguese Government have in view," a declaration which abundantly proves the friendship of Her Majesty's Government towards that of Portugal, and their anxiety to develop the commercial relations between the two countries. But notwithstanding this friendship and this anxiety, it would be clearly impossible for Her Majesty's Government, after all the advantages which, unreciprocated, have been accorded to Portuguese commerce in Great Britain, to pledge themselves to a still further concession, before obtaining tolerably accurate information as to the nature and extent of the advantages which in return were likely to be derived by British commerce in Portugal.

The Undersigned will be glad if the further assurances of Senhor Cazal Ribeiro on this subject should prove satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, but he cannot avoid the remark that whereas, on the one hand, Senhor Cazal Ribeiro has stated positively the amount of concession required by Portugal, he has, as regards the reductions to be made in the Portuguese Tariff on British produce and manufactures, gone no further than to give general assurances. The Undersigned does not, of course, expect to be furnished with the quantum of reduction on each separate article, but he submits that it might be in the power of the Portuguese Government to state the maximum of *ad valorem* duty, which should not be exceeded by any specific duty hereafter to be levied in the new Tariff.

In the meantime, the Undersigned has felt it to be his duty to point out that Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has not already committed himself, in the manner described by Senhor Cazal Ribeiro, to the concession in the alcoholic scale demanded by Portugal, and that Her Majesty's Government have not been guilty of any unnecessary delay in following up the negotiations for the Commercial Treaty proposed by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 21.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Paget.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 19, 1866.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th instant, inclosing copies of your correspondence with M. Cazal Ribeiro as to the proposed Commercial Treaty between this country and Portugal, and I have to state to you that I approve of your note to M. Ribeiro of the 13th December.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 22.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Paget.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 27, 1866.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th instant, I have to instruct you to state to the Portuguese Government that the delay which has taken place in entering upon the proposed commercial negotiation is owing to the very serious fiscal difficulties which lie in the way of such a reduction of the present scale of wine duties as would be satisfactory to Portugal, and that these difficulties have been increased by the recent statement of M. Cazal Ribeiro, that nothing less than the admission of wine containing forty degrees of proof strength at 1*s.* per gallon would meet the requirements of the Portuguese wine trade.

You will inform the Portuguese Government that such is the wish of Her Majesty's Government to remove all unnecessary obstructions to the trade between Great Britain and Portugal, and to aid the Government of Portugal in introducing the liberal commercial policy upon which they are desirous of entering, that they have caused the most careful inquiries to be made on this question, and are giving it their best consideration, and that as soon as they are in a position to make any useful proposal, they will lose no time in doing so.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 23.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 1, 1867.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, December* 28, 1866.

I SAW M. Cazal Ribeiro yesterday afternoon. His Excellency spoke of my last note respecting the Commercial Treaty, of which a copy was transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 13th instant. He said, it had almost given him the impression that a desire existed on our part to retreat from the negotiation. I had referred, he said, to all the arguments made use of by your Lordship with a view of inducing the Portuguese Government to reduce their Tariff spontaneously.

I replied that I was compelled to do this in order to meet that part of his Excellency's note in which he had said that your Lordship, in your reply to the first Portuguese overture, had admitted that Her Majesty's Government "would have no difficulty in altering the present alcoholic scale," and had bound yourself in short to do so. It had been necessary for me, I said, to place this matter right, and that beyond doing so I had no object in view; that I had received no official instructions on the subject of the Treaty since my arrival at Lisbon, and that I could consequently conscientiously assure his Excellency that the impression he had derived from my note as stated above was incorrect.

M. Cazal Ribeiro thought that the expression quoted was justified by the terms of your Lordship's despatch to Count Rilvas.

His Excellency then went into the merits of the question at issue, and repeated many of the arguments he had made use of—and which I have already reported to your Lordship—in favour of the change in the alcoholic scale desired by Portugal. He insisted that it was impossible for Portuguese wines to be made with less alcoholic strength than at present, and he referred to the report of Mr. Bernard in support of this assertion, and that the average of these wines was of 36 degrees. He wished, he said, the matter to be decided by the authority of English inquirers, and requested I would refer your Lordship, and, through your Lordship, the Board of Trade to the report of the gentleman above-mentioned.

I could only say in reply, that since our first conversation on this subject I had been confirmed in my opinion that Her Majesty's Government could not agree to so important a change in the alcoholic scale as his Excellency had mentioned; it would amount to admitting all wines at the 1*s.* duty, and how, I inquired, was a 10*s.* duty on spirits to be maintained under these circumstances? His Excellency replied to this by the same arguments he employed on the last occasion.

I then called his Excellency's attention to what I had asked for in my last note, namely, a statement from the Portuguese Government as to the maximum *ad valorem*

duty they would take as a standard for any specific duties. A reply on this subject, I said, could not but be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government, and might, if it held out a sufficiently advantageous prospect, facilitate and expedite very materially future negotiations.

His Excellency replied that it was extremely difficult to fix a general *ad valorem* duty as a standard, and he entered into some details to explain this.

Your Lordship is aware both from my previous despatches and from the notes which I have addressed to the Portuguese Government that my great object has been to obtain some definite declaration of the exact value of the general assurance of their readiness to reduce the existing rate of import duties in favour of British commerce upon certain conditions to be fulfilled by us. I am happy to be able to report therefore as the result of my present conversation that M. Cazal Ribeiro has agreed to furnish me confidentially with a statement of the amount of the duty, which the Portuguese Government would be prepared to take off on the most important articles of British exports to Portugal (reserving articles of smaller importance to be dealt with in the subsequent negotiations), provided the British Government on their side would agree to the desired change in the alcoholic scale. This, he said, was the essential point for Portugal; the scale must be altered so as to admit the wines at a 1*s.* duty; they wanted in short a reality and not a fiction.

Upon this point also I requested his Excellency to be good enough to furnish me, in the statement he is to send me, with the exact requirements of the Portuguese Government, requesting him to bear in mind that every degree was of importance. This he likewise agreed to do.

After this conversation I feel bound to record my decided opinion that the Portuguese Minister is really desirous of placing the commercial relations between the two countries on a more favourable footing, and that, if it should be possible for Her Majesty s Government to agree to what the Portuguese Government deem essential to the wine trade of this country, very great advantages may be expected from them for the trade of Great Britain with Portugal.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 24.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, January 12, 1867.*

I CALLED upon M. Cazal Ribeiro on Thursday afternoon at the usual hour of his weekly reception of the Corps Diplomatique, and his Excellency then placed in my hands—

1. A copy of the Commercial Treaty with France.

2. A list showing the value of certain articles of British commerce imported into Portugal in the year 1861 (no Returns subsequent to that year having having been yet prepared) on which the Portuguese Government were ready to make reductions in duty.

I have the honour to inclose these documents.

M. Cazal Ribeiro desired that I would consider the communication of the French Treaty as quite confidential, as it had not yet been laid upon the table of the Cortes.

His Excellency held in his hand another paper, which he informed me was a further list of articles on which the Tariff was to be reduced, but he could not give it me at this interview, because, he said, the decision of the Government had not been taken as to the amount of reduction to be made on one or two articles, salt fish especially.

His Excellency then sent for M. Nogueira Soares, the head of the Commercial Department in the Foreign Office, who, he said, would be able to give me any explanation I might wish for in connection with the French Treaty, and the further reductions in the Tariff annexed to it, which might be made in our favour.

But before proceeding further with my present Report, I should mention that M. Cazal Ribeiro has on one or two recent occasions referred to certain letters which he has received from Oporto, where it would appear some of the merchants engaged in the wine trade have received information of negotiations for a commercial Treaty being pending between Great Britain and Portugal, on the basis of a reduction of the Tariff on the one side, and an alteration of the alcoholic test on the other, and these letters, one and all, his Excellency said, deprecated any change in the test, which should not go up to 40 degrees.

The impression which they appeared to have at Oporto was, that the scale was to be fixed at 36 degrees, in which case they declared that the wine trade of Portugal would be in a worse position than ever, because the test thus fixed would admit the strong wines of Spain and other countries at the 1*s.* duty, whereas the average of port wines containing rather over than under 36 degrees of alcoholic strength, a large proportion of those wines would still suffer exclusion except at the higher rate of duty. Instead, therefore, of benefitting by the change, the interests of the Portuguese merchant would be still more injured by having to contend against a larger supply of wine admitted at the one-shilling than heretofore. The higher rate of duty, they contended, would then apply to Portuguese wines only; and the writers of these letters therefore implored, his Excellency said, that things should rather be left as they are, than that the scale should be altered to 36 degrees.

His Excellency further stated to me, on one of the occasions above alluded to, that being anxious to satisfy himself, beyond all possible doubt, as to the correctness or the reverse of what was stated in regard to the strength of port wines, he had obtained from England an instrument identical with that used by Her Majesty's Customs for testing the strength of wines, and it was his intention to send a competent person (a Professor of Chemistry, as I afterwards understood from his Excellency) to Oporto, for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of alcohol contained in the different wines, and of making a Report to him upon the subject.

The fact, however, mentioned by Baron Forester on his Report on wines, must not, his Excellency added, be lost sight of, namely, that wine of a certain alcoholic strength, when shipped from Oporto, will be found 2 or 3 degrees stronger when ready for consumption in England.

On the introduction of M. Nogueira Soares, I observed that the documents which had now been placed in my hands did not, as far as I could see, afford me any information upon the point on which I was anxious for it—namely, what were the advantages to be obtained by Great Britain in the event of Her Majesty's Government agreeing to the views of the Portuguese Government respecting a change in the alcoholic test? M. Nogueira Soares replied that Great Britain would obtain all the advantages of the French Treaty, and the abolition of the differential fifth on indirect navigation, which had not been accorded to France. M. Cazal Ribeiro interposed that this would be carried into effect as soon as possible; but a certain delay would be necessary, out of regard for the interests of native shipowners.

I asked if we were to have the coasting trade, to which I received a negative reply. I then requested information respecting the further reductions which were to be made in our favour on articles in the Tariff annexed to the French Treaty, and I also made inquiries respecting the statement promised me by M. Cazal Ribeiro as to the amount of the reductions to be made on articles specially belonging to British commerce.

His Excellency said that the paper referred to at the beginning of our interview, but which, for the reasons stated above, he could not now give me, would furnish the latter information, and would be brought to me by M. Soares, who would also point out the further reductions which might be made in the Tariff annexed to the French Treaty.

His Excellency then reverted to his letters from Oporto relative to the change in the alcoholic test. He had, he said, received many further representations on the subject, some of which contended that to do Portugal any good the scale should be fixed at 41 or 42 degrees.

I replied that, apparently, the further we went the more exorbitant the pretensions became. I presumed, however, that his Excellency did not intend to indorse these pretensions, for it would be hopeless to think of arriving at an understanding if the demands of the Portuguese Government were based upon the interested counsels of individuals. I reminded his Excellency that the first time I spoke to him he informed me that the average strength of port wines was of 35 degrees, and 40 degrees was mentioned as the utmost desideratum at which the test should be fixed; but from 35 degrees the average had gradually risen, until now 41 or 42 degrees as the alcoholic test was mentioned as necessary for the interests of the Portuguese merchant.

M. Cazal Ribeiro admitted that he thought that this was perhaps going rather beyond what was required; but he contended that no change which did not admit wines of 40 degrees alcoholic strength at the 1*s.* duty would benefit Portugal. In reply to my inquiry whether he had received a report from the person he had sent to Oporto to test the strength of the wines, he replied in the negative.

In further pursuance of this conversation, M. Cazal Ribeiro expressed the hope that there would be no delay on the part of Her Majesty's Government in reference to these negotiations, for that he was most anxious, as he had already stated to me, to bring them

to a conclusion before the expiration of the present Session of the Cortes, so that the Treaty might receive the sanction of that body.

I replied that his Excellency might be sure there would be no unnecessary delay, as there certainly had been none on the part of Her Majesty's Government. The state of the case, I begged to remind him, was simply this :—The Portuguese Government had made an application to Her Majesty's Government to negotiate a Treaty of Commerce. They had defined very precisely the advantage which they sought in favour of an essential element of Portuguese commerce. Her Majesty's Government, with a desire to forward the views of the Portuguese Government, had stated their willingness to entertain in principle the proposal made to them; but before committing themselves to a final decision as to details they wished to learn from the Portuguese Government what were the advantages which the trade of Great Britain had to expect from a reduction of the Portuguese Tariff. This, I said, had been my invariable language, both in writing and verbally, ever since the first interview I had had the honour to have with his Excellency, and to this inquiry I was still awaiting a reply. When I received it, I would immediately transmit it to your Lordship; but I maintained that, until Her Majesty's Government were in possession of this information, they were not in a position to decide as to the extent to which they might be able to accede to the demands of Portugal.

Any advantages we may obtain in the present negotiations will, of course, be open to France, who has secured, by the VIth Article of the Treaty signed last July, the treatment of the most favoured nation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 24.

Treaty of Commerce between France and Portugal, signed July 11, 1866.

[Presented to Parliament in 1867.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 24.

(Translation.)

List of the Principal Articles imported from England in 1861, upon which a Reduction of Duty is proposed.

	Reis.
Skins and hides worked	16,233,400
Earthenware	43,455,000
Porcelain	3,951,300
Common black and green glass in bottles	26,166,900
White glass in sundry pieces..	8,764,100
Carriages, twenty-five	15,702,000
Cashmeres in pieces	101,000,000
Cloths in pieces	161,744,400
Linseys of more than one colour	21,428,100
Sulphur { In the rough	17,618,300
Sulphur { In crystal or powder	165,822,900
Saltpetre..	60,666,400
Total	642,553,200

No. 25.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January* 14, 1867.

AS I had reason to believe that I should to-day receive the visit of Senhor Nogueira Soares, for the purpose of giving me the information promised by Senhor Cazal Ribeiro, as referred to in my despatch of the 12th instant, I thought it as well to anticipate his call by waiting this morning on Senhor Ribeiro, and stating to his Excellency the substance of the information which I had received from your Lordship by the mail which arrived yesterday afternoon, relative to the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty with Portugal.*

I thought that being put in possession of satisfactory intelligence as to the disposi-

* See No. 22.

tion of Her Majesty's Government to deal in a liberal spirit in regard to the matter of the alcoholic test could not but act as an additional encouragement to the Portuguese Minister to act also in a liberal spirit towards us, and induce him to go perhaps a little further in the reductions in the Tariff, that were to be made known to me to-day. I accordingly went to Senhor Cazal Ribeiro at 11 o'clock in the morning, and stated to him that Her Majesty's Government had been giving their best attention to the question of a reduction in the alcoholic scale, and that any delay which had occurred in taking a decision upon it was owing to the fiscal considerations which it involved. The difficulties originally anticipated had been increased, I said, by his Excellency's recent statement that nothing less than the admission of wine containing 40 degrees of proof strength at 1*s.* a gallon would meet the requirements of the Portuguese wine trade. But Her Majesty's Government, I said, in their desire to remove all unnecessary obstructions to the trade between Great Britain and Portugal, and to aid the Government of Portugal in introducing the liberal commercial policy upon which they are desirous of entering, had caused the most careful inquiries to be made on this question, and I was happy in now being able to announce to his Excellency that it was ascertained that the difficulties in the way of an important reduction were less than was expected, and that Her Majesty's Government were disposed to consider such reduction favourably, if the Portuguese Government would make a fair return for it.

I then stated to his Excellency frankly that the reason I had come to him this morning was that I was in hopes the announcement I had now made to him would exercise a favourable influence upon the communications to be made to me by Senhor Soares, and the Government would at once state, without reserve, the utmost lengths in the way of reduction of duty, to which they were able to go in favour of British commerce; for I said, although Her Majesty's Government had every desire to forward the views of the Portuguese Government, his Excellency must remember that in taking a step which would admit Portuguese wines at the lowest duty, we were making the last concession it was in our power to make in favour of Portuguese trade, and that we expected to receive an adequate equivalent for it. On the amount of the reductions of the Portuguese Tariff on British goods must therefore depend the amount of reduction of the alcoholic scale.

Senhor Cazal Ribeiro replied that my present communication had given him the greatest satisfaction. He expressed his desire of proceeding with the negotiations as rapidly as possible. It was the most anxious wish of himself and his colleagues, he said, to conclude a Commercial Treaty with England; and I might rely upon it that they would go to the utmost lengths of what was possible to secure this end. Her Majesty's Government must bear in mind that this was a first step towards the introduction of a liberal commercial policy into this country, that they had certain interests to combat and others to consider, and "c'est le premier pas qui coute." But, he repeated, what they could do they would state frankly at once. He begged me to receive Senhor Soares a few hours later in the day, as he was anxious to speak with him again before our interview.

His Excellency then asked how far Her Majesty's Government would go in the reduction of the test: would they fix it at 41 or 42 degrees? he inquired.

I replied that I could say nothing as to details; but his Excellency might be sure, I said, that the more liberally the Portuguese Government acted by us, the more disposed Her Majesty's Government would be to do all they could to meet the requirements of Portugal. I observed, however, that I had understood his Excellency to say, the other day, that they would be satisfied with a reduction of the scale to 40 degrees.

Senhor Ribeiro did not dispute this, but said that he was besieged by letters from those interested in the wine trade, from members of the Chamber of Commerce of Oporto, and others, who pressed him very hard upon this point, and representations coming from such an important quarter could not be disregarded.

I then took leave of his Excellency, promising to use all diligence in forwarding to your Lordship all the information I should receive from him upon the matter which now occupies us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 26.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January 15, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that M. Nogueira Soares, head of the Commercial Department of the Portuguese Foreign Office, called upon me yesterday afternoon, about 4 o'clock, for the purpose of delivering to me a statement as to the amount of reduction in the Portuguese Tariff, which the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty was prepared to make on articles of British commerce imported into Portugal, on the condition of a certain reduction being made by Her Majesty's Government in the present alcoholic scale, so as to admit Portuguese wines into England at the duty of 1*s.* per gallon.

M. Soares began by saying that the Portuguese Government did not wish to treat with us, as he termed it, "diplomatically;" they were most desirous of concluding a Commercial Treaty with England; and they were prepared to state frankly, and at once, the terms which they could offer us. They had gone through, he said, the list of articles which formed the staple of the trade of Great Britain with Portugal, and I should see that the reductions of duty which they proposed upon those articles was very considerable.

M. Soares then read over to me the paper he had brought with him, which, he said, contained an enumeration of these articles, and, as he did so, he commented on the important effect the reductions were likely to have in increasing the trade of Great Britain with this country, and explained in what cases the reductions would attack the protection now enjoyed by native industry.

I have the honour to inclose the original paper which I received from M. Soares, which includes also the further reductions proposed to be made in the French Tariff in our favour. I have had these articles marked in red ink, for more easy reference.*

Your Lordship will perceive that the amount of the reduction on salt fish is not specified. The duty on this article is to be reduced by something more than one-third of the present duty; but M. Soares explained that he could not state the precise amount at this moment, for the following reasons:—The trade in salt fish, much against the wish of the Government, is a monopoly in the hands of two mercantile houses—one at Lisbon, and one at Oporto. It is a monoply not authorized by law, but existing *de facto*. The Government, by encouraging other houses to engage in the same trade, had endeavoured to attack this monopoly, but without success; the persons who had endeavoured to compete with the monopolists having invariably been obliged in the end to renounce the enterprise, as the monopolists have got the whole trade into their own hands. They have sub-vendors in every part of the country, and their arrangements are so well combined that a new comer has not the slightest chance of succeeding against them. The consequence of this is, that they regulate the price at which the commodity is sold, and, therefore, this was not a case in which compensation for a reduction of duty was to be expected from an increased consumption. The Government must, therefore, make up their mind to a dead loss. They had done so; but certain calculations had to be made before the precise amount of the reduction (which, however, would certainly be more than a third of the present duty) could be stated.

In Class 15, window glass, M. Soares said, had been accidentally omitted by the clerk who had copied out this paper. A considerable reduction was, he declared, intended, and he would send me a note on the subject.

I have just received this note, which I inclose, and in which I find that the duty on window glass is reduced from 160 to 60 reis.

When we had gone through the list of reductions, I observed to M. Soares that I could not help being struck by the absence of all mention of cotton goods, which was certainly one of the articles which interested us the most. M. Soares contended that the duty on cotton was already very low. I replied that that very morning I had had a gentleman with me, engaged in the cotton trade, and who had told me that the duty on some classes of cotton goods was as much as 75 per cent. M. Soares said that on one or two kinds this might possibly be the case; but on the generality the duty was low. I replied that it was of no advantage to British trade that the duty on the finer class of cotton goods, which we did not send to Portugal, should be low; while the duty on the coarser kind which we supplied was excessive. I said there must be a logical classification in order to understand in what position we should stand. What had now been done, on the contrary, had been, unless I was mistaken, to mass all descriptions of goods of one class together, and to strike an average of the rate of duty. My observation was

* Printed in italics.

intended to apply not only to cotton, but to all goods. M. Soares said that such wa the case.

I said that what appeared to me the simplest mode of proceeding would be that the Portuguese Government should fix a maximum of *ad valorem* duty on certain classes of goods, which should not be surpassed by any specific duty. I observed, I said, in the French Treaty twenty per cent. might be inferred to be the average of *ad valorem* duty agreed to; and, as the Portuguese Government professed an intention to go further with us, they might fix fifteen per cent. *ad valorem*.

M. Soares said that the difficulties attending an *ad valorem* duty were immense. First, there was the difficulty of ascertaining the real value of the article; next in reducing *ad valorem* to specific duties. The system had been given up as between France and England, and specific duties had been adopted. France, however, he must remind me, had stipulated for thirty per cent. *ad valorem*. For the Portuguese Government to agree to fifteen per cent. would be to agree to the certain destruction of the native industries.

I replied, that, if we were to wait for the establishment of specific duties on each article, the elaboration of the Tariff would be a work of months, whereas, if they would agree to the principle I proposed, a Treaty of a few articles might be speedily drawn up, and the Tariff could be worked out afterwards. This was a consideration worth weighing, I said, if the Portuguese Government was anxious to gain time.

M. Soares gave me no hope that they would adopt this plan, and he used several more arguments to shew why they should not do so. The most important of these was to the effect that, unless the specific duties were stated in the Treaty, there might arise many unnecessary disputes between the Government and the interested parties respecting their adjustment according to the Treaty Standard. He added, however, that any reasonable proposals coming from Her Majesty's Government would receive due consideration.

He then spoke of the change in the alcoholic scale. As an absolute demand, the Portuguese Government did not insist on the scale being reduced to less than 40 degrees, but they would be very glad if it could be fixed at 41 or 42 degrees. He said an impression, an erroneous one he was ready to admit, but still a very decided impression, existed in the country, that the British Government had established a differential duty on wines, in favour of France, at the expense of their old ally Portugal, and since the time when the Anglo-French Treaty had been concluded, the respective Governments in Portugal had been continually beset by representations from the Portuguese wine traders, with a view to get this distinction removed. It was most desirable, therefore, for the present administration to succeed in the efforts they were now making, both in the interests of trade, and as regards the re-establishment of a better feeling towards England by the removal of the unfortunate impression he had alluded to. Most of the Portuguese wines contained 37, 38, 39, and 40 degrees, of alcoholic strength, but some at present in store were of 41 or even 42 degrees of alcoholic strength. M. Soares admitted that this might be remedied for the future.

I will not trouble your Lordship by a repetition of my replies to M. Soares on this matter, as they were in substance those in which I have made to M. Cazal Ribeiro, and are already reported.

Being anxious, moreover, to bring this lengthy despatch to a close, I shall also refrain from commenting in detail on the proposed reductions now made known by the Portuguese Government. Some of them appear to me to be of decided value, while there is no doubt that there are omissions of considerable importance; and it is difficult to say from the table now before us, what would be the actual amount of the reduced duty on the various classes of articles specially belonging to the trade of Great Britain. Nevertheless, taking into consideration the reductions in the Franco-Portuguese Tariff, and especially the regulations respecting mixed goods, together with the data now given, there would appear to be satisfactory indications of a disposition on the part of the Portuguese Government, from which real advantages may possibly be obtained for British commerce with this country, in the course of further negotiations.

I should state in conclusion that, having mentioned to M. Soares the omission of herrings, in the reduction proposed on salt-fish, I was informed by him that there would probably be no difficulty in making the reduction apply to herrings also, and on a further observation of mine respecting jute tissue which are not now mentioned, he said, he was in hopes they would be able to satisfy us.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Proposed additional Reduction to England.

[N.B.—Differences between this proposal and the Franco-Portuguese Tariff are printed in Italics.]

	Unités.	Taux actuels.	Rapport centesimal.	Taux Conventionnels.
	Kilo.	Reis.	Pour cent.	Reis.
2e Classe.				
Ouvrages de maroquinerie et autres ouvrages en peau non dénommés, y *compris la sellerie*, avec les ferrures et les garnitures	1	1,000	30	15 pour cent.
3e Classe.				
Morue	„	33·5	36	..
4e Classe.				
Laine pilée—				
Blanche—				
A broder	„	1,500	20	400
Non dénommés	„	675	40	400
Teinte—				
A broder	„	2,500	40	800
Non dénommé	„	1,100	34	800
Tissus transparents—				
Barèges, Mousselines, Crêpe — à une couleur	„	1,500	37·5	1,000
Barèges, Mousselines, Crêpe — à deux ou plusieurs couleurs	„	1,950	40	1,000
Merinos à une ou plusieurs couleurs*	„	2,500	38	1,000
Tissus damassés—				
A une couleur —	„	1,000	33	1,000
A deux ou plusieurs couleurs	„	1,300	32	1,000
Tissus ras—				
Etamine glacée	„	450	15	450
A une couleur	„	1,000	33	1,000
A deux ou plusieurs couleurs	„	1,300	40	1,000
Tissus non dénommés comprenant les draps, casimirs et autres ..	„	1,500	45	1,000
8e Classe.				
Meubles en bois, garnis ou non	*Ad val.*	35 pour cent.	..	20 pour cent.†
Ouvrages en bois non dénommés	„	35 pour cent.	..	20 pour cent.
11e Classe.				
Huile de graine de lin	1	40	20	30
„ de ricin clarifié	„	500	40	5 pour cent.
12e Classe.				
Fonte, fer et acier, bruts, fondus ou laminés	..	..	De 6 à 39	Exempt.
Métaux et alliages métalliques, bruts, fondus ou laminés ..	..	..	De 6 à 39	Exempt.
Plaqués d'or et d'argent, bronzes et autres ouvrages de métaux dorés ou argentés par tout espèce de procédé	„	250	12 à 25	200‡
Ressorts pour voitures	„	25	6·5	5
Clous—				
De fonte et de fer	„	100	54	30
A tête de laiton	„	200	28	30
De cuivre	„	200	24	30§
De laiton	„	200	12	30
Ouvrages en fer blanc	„	400	26	300
Ouvrages en cuivre, pur ou allié, non dénommés	„	250	10 à 25	200
Ouvrages d'étain	„	200	23	50
„ *de zinc*	„	70	13	50
15e Classe.				
Glaces polies—‖				
Non étamées	6·2 c.	1	..	10·2 dec.
Etamées	„	2	..	20·2 dec.

* Merinos of one colour were in Franco-Portuguese Tariff.
† 25 per cent. in Franco-Portuguese Tariff.
‡ In Franco-Portuguese Tariff at 250.
§ In Franco-Portuguese Treaty at 200.
‖ Omission of window glass, in which is a great trade, is to be repaired.

Proposed additional Reduction to England—continued.

[N.B.—Differences between this proposal and the Franco-Portuguese Tariff are printed in Italics.]

	Unités.	Taux actuels.	Rapport centesimal.	Taux Conventionnels.
	Kilo.	Reis.	Pour cent.	Reis.
Poterie—				
Faience fine	1	100	19	50
Grès	„	75	13	50
Porcelaine	„	350	30	200
16E CLASSE.				
Castors	„	7·5	3	5
Papiers—				
A écrire	„	100	22·5	40
A dessin	„	35	8	15
A imprimer	„	15	6	15
D'enveloppes	„	50	11	15
Peint	„	50	15	15
De soie	„	100	..	15
17E CLASSE.				
Alcalis caustiques, solides et dissous	„	100	28·5	10 pour cent.
Azotate d'argent	„	6,000	24	10 „
Carbonate de potasse raffiné	„	50	26	10 „
Chlorure de mercure	„	500	31	10 „
Ether	„	250	26	10 „
18E CLASSE.				
Couleurs—				
Cendres bleues et vertes	„	125	36	5 „
Bleu d'outremer	„	50	30	5 „
Jaune de chrôme	„	50	30	5 „
19E CLASSE.				
Voitures pour le transport des personnes	chaque	70,000 à 230,000	..	20* „

Inclosure 3 in No. 26.

Proposed Reduction additional to French Tariff.

	Unités.	Taux actuels.	Rapport centesimal.	Taux Conventionnels.
		Reis.	Pour cent.	Reis.
Verres et cristaux: glaces—				
Polies etamées	6·2 c.	2	..	20·2 p. dec.
Non étamées	„	1	..	10 p. dec.
A vitres	1 kilo.	160	53	60
Globes et cheminées pour lampes	„	160	..	60
Ouvrages non dénommés comprenant les articles de toilette, de tables et autres	„	160	..	100

* In Franco-Portuguese Tariff at 25 per cent.

No. 27.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January* 16, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inclose a memorandum, which was left with me by M. Nogueira Soares, of the concessions to Portuguese trade which, in addition to the alteration of the alcoholic test, the Portuguese Government would be desirous of obtaining for Her Majesty's Government.

They are comprised in the reduction of the existing duty on dried and preserved fruit.

Mr. Soares said, that if there was an objection to a reduction of the duty on all the kinds mentioned, the reduction of figs, almonds, and raisins was what the Government was most anxious about.

The reduction mentioned in the memorandum is that which has been conceded by France in the recent Treaty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure in No. 27.

No. 1.—*Proposed additional Reductions to England.*

	Tarif Anglais.	Droits Conventionnelles.
Fruits secs, non confits au sucre :—		
Abricôts et pêches, figues, gateau de figues, pruneaux, prunes et leur variétés, et raisins .. .. Quintals	7*s.*	100 kilos., 30c.
Cerises .. .. Livre	1*d.*	
Fruits confits au sucre :—		
Amandes (pâte), prunes, pêches, et autres fruits et végétaux non dénommés .. .. Livre	1*d.*	

Le droit de 30 centimes par 100 kilogrammes sur les fruits secs, est le droit stipulé dans le Traité entre le Portugal et la France, sur les mêmes Articles à leur importation en France.

No. 28.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, January* 17, 1867.

HAVING occasion to communicate with M. Soares upon a point of detail in one of the papers he left with me, I requested Mr. Harriss to call upon him and obtain the information I desired; and I further directed Mr. Harriss to renew the representation I had made in favour of the adoption of an *ad valorem* maximum.

At all events, if this could not be agreed to by the Portuguese Government, I desired Mr. Harriss to endeavour to obtain a promise of alterations in the classification of any group of articles of British trade which might be desirable, in order that they should not pay any duty higher than the per-centage specified in the proposed Treaty tariff.

The result of which was to obtain from that gentleman a promise that a note should be addressed to me by M. Cazal Ribeiro embodying the assurances I was desirous to obtain on the various points comprised in the preceding paragraph of this despatch, as well as on other points which had been brought under the notice of M. Soares by Mr. Harriss.

No. 29.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 24.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, January* 18, 1867.

I SAW M. Cazal Ribeiro again yesterday afternoon, and he was not, I am sorry to say, quite so satisfactory as I could have wished as to the note which M. Soares had

promised Mr. Harriss he would address to me respecting the points alluded to in my despatch of yesterday's date. He spoke of the difficulty of a different classification for articles appertaining to the same group, and of the difficulty which would arise in practice of assigning each article to its particular class. His Excellency said, however, that he would confer again with one of the principal officers of the Customs, and what could be done he was quite ready and willing to do, and would state to me in the note which he promised me for to-day.

I said it was my anxious wish, with the view to the success of our present negotiations, to send to London as comprehensive a proposal as possible on the part of the Portuguese Government, and it was therefore, I insisted, on the points in question, for I could not help feeling a serious apprehension that, unless the proposed reductions which had been communicated to me were accompanied by further explanations of a satisfactory nature, they might be considered insufficient by Her Majesty's Government.

I again alluded to the adoption of an *ad valorem* duty, but with no better success than before,

Cottons and woollens I feel convinced are the articles on which we shall find the greatest difficulties in the present negotiations, but at the same time they are the most important. I told M. Cazal Ribeiro that I should take his proposals as a basis for negotiations, but that he must of course be prepared for counter-proposals from Her Majesty's Government.

He replied that all negotiations consisted of proposals and counter-proposals, but that the Portuguese Government could not go further than they now did in the way of reductions, as they could not entirely and at once withdraw all protection from the native industry of the country.

If, however, Her Majesty's Government are able to agree to the proposals of the Portuguese Government respecting the alcoholic test, it will, I think, be extremely difficult for the Portuguese Government to resist any just demands which can be made upon them for a reduction of duty on imports from Great Britain. The journals of Oporto have already spoken of the negotiations now on foot, and those engaged in external commerce are anxiously awaiting the result of those negotiations.

M. Cazal Ribeiro showed me, yesterday, a report which he had just received from the gentleman he had sent to Oporto to test the strength of wines, and which showed, he said, that it was impossible for the Government to accept anything under 42 degrees as the test for red wines. A copy of this Report is to accompany his Excellency's note.

As regards white wines he said the Government would agree to 40 degrees as the alcoholic test. I represented that as the trade of Portugal in white wines was merely nominal the scale might well be left as it is. He said, however, that they must adhere to 40 degrees, as a trade might grow up. It will be for Her Majesty's Government to decide whether they will make a counter proposal on this point.

No. 30.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 24.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January* 18, 1867.

I HAVE just had a visit from M. Nogueira Soares to say that M. Cazal Ribeiro being obliged to attend the Cortes to-day at 1 o'clock, I cannot have his note till late in the afternoon. He assures me, however, that the principal points urged by me have been agreed to, and that considerable reductions in the duty on cottons, &c., are consented to. He says that the Government cannot pledge itself in principle to a change in the system of classification, but that if Her Majesty's Government will point out any articles which they consider unjustly weighed upon according to the present system, their proposals will be favourably considered by the Portuguese Government. He repeated that they had gone as far as possible with the view of not prolonging the negotiations. The public was aware of them, and it was most desirable in the interests of commerce that they should be brought to as speedy a conclusion as possible.

In regard to the alcoholic test M. Soares supported M. Cazal Ribeiro's declaration of yesterday that 42 degrees was necessary for red wines, but that they would agree to 40 degrees for white wines.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 31.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(*Received January* 24.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, January* 18, 1867, 5·30 P.M.

I HAVE this moment received the inclosed note (which time does not admit of being copied) from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs relative to the reduction in cottons and other prints which I had brought under his notice.

A French translation of this note has likewise been sent to me by M. Cazal Ribeiro and is also inclosed herewith.

This document appears to indicate a favourable disposition on the part of the Portuguese Government towards articles of British commerce; and is, perhaps, rather mo e satisfactory than the language of M. Cazal Ribeiro yesterday authorized me to expect.

M. Cazal Ribeiro's note was accompanied by one from M. Soares respecting the reduction which the Portuguese Government expect on dried and preserved fruits imported into England; and a copy of it is also inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Senhor Ribeiro to Sir A. Paget.

(Traduction.) *Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, le* 18 *Janvier*, 1867.

LE Soussigné, Ministre et Secrétaire d'Etat des Affaires Etrangères, a l'honneur de déclarer ce qui suit à Sir A. Paget, à l'égard de la conversation qu'il a eue hier avec son Excellence.

Ce n'est plus un mystère qu'il y a des négociations préliminaires entamées entre le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Très-Fidèle et celui de Sa Majesté Britannique pour la conclusion d'un Traité, en vertu duquel de mutuelles concessions doivent avoir lieu en ce qui concerne les droits fixés par les Tarifs des deux nations. Quelques maisons de commerce de Londres, qui en ont eu connaissance, ont communiqué ce fait à leurs correspondants de Porto. La presse a donné la plus grande publicité à cette nouvelle qui a été reçue comme authentique à cause des données certaines qui l'ont accompagnée; et, dans l'attente des réductions des droits du Tarif de l'importation, le commerce a dû interrompre ses transactions. Mais cet état de choses peut occasionner les plus graves conséquences.

Afin de pouvoir conclure le plus tôt possible le Traité qui doit régler définitivement les relations commerciales des deux pays, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté a fait examiner avec le plus grand soin les droits qui frappent les articles d'importation Anglaise à leur entrée en Portugal. C'est pourquoi le soussigné n'hésite pas à déclarer à Sir A. Paget, que les réductions que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est disposé à accorder au bénéfice de l'Angleterre, sont celles dont il est fait mention sur la liste qu'il a déjà remise à son Excellence, et sur celle qui se trouve ci-jointe. Il est aisé d'apprécier, d'après la statistique de l'importation et le Tarif actuel, les grands avantages que l'industrie et le commerce Anglais doivent retirer de ces réductions.

Il ne semble pas facile au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté d'élargir ces concessions. Si, cependant, dans le cours des négociations, il voit qu'il est possible de séparer quelques articles du groupe où ils sont classés, sans qu'il en résulte un grand sacrifice pour les intérêts de l'industrie et du fisc, il n'hésitera pas à ouvrir la discussion à cet égard.

En ce qui concerne la navigation, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté accordera à l'Angleterre, moyennant réciprocité, le traitement national autant dans les relations directes que dans les indirectes. Mais avant d'égaler les conditions légales de la concurrence entre les deux marines marchandes, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté croit indispensable d'accorder quelques avantages à la marine nationale et de protéger les intérêts, qui, sous l'égide de la législation en vigueur, se trouvent compromis dans des opérations commerciales qui exigent des voyages au long cours. Cependant, le délai après lequel les navires Anglais jouiront du traitement national, en ce qui concerne le commerce indirect, ne dépassera pas deux ans.

Quant aux tares, les règles générales de la législation douanière du Portugal sont celles qui sont en vigueur dans les pays les plus avancés de l'Europe, et offrent au commerce toutes les garanties désirables. Cependant, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté est disposé à introduire au tarif des tares toutes les améliorations conseillées par la pratique, et à cette occasion, il prendra en considération les représentations qui pourront lui être faites.

Il faut cependant établir clairement que les concessions indiquées dépendent de la réalisation par l'Angleterre de la condition que le Soussigné a toujours établie comme essentielle; condition qui consiste en ce que le nouveau régime de l'importation des vins Portugais dans ce pays, perde son caractère différentiel, et ne favorise davantage les vins des autres pays concurrents. Si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne consent pas à élever la limite de l'échelle alcoolique pour le droit de 1*s.* au degré d'esprit dé preuve que les expériences faites montrent comme nécessaire pour réaliser cette condition, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté ne pourra offrir de compensations en échange de toute autre altération de l'échelle alcoolique. Les expériences faites dernièrement à Porto par un professeur de l'Institut Agricole (annexe No. 2), prouvent qu'il y a des vins dont la force alcoolique est de 43·8°. La limite pour le droit de 1*s.* doit donc être, au moins, de 42° pour le vin rouge, celui que excède ce degré devant être soumis au droit additionnel de 3*d.* par gallon, conformément aux prescriptions en vigueur. Quant au droit d'importation sur les vins blancs, le Gouvernement pourra accepter la limite de 40°.

D'après cet exposé, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté espère que le nouveau Traité pourra être conclu et signé avec la promptitude que réclament les intérêts les plus importants du commerce entre les deux pays.

Le Soussigné, &c. (Signé) CASAL RIBEIRO.

No. 1.—*Proposed additional Reductions to England.*

	Unités.	Droits Actuels.	Droits Conventionnels.
		Reis.	Reis.
Coton en laine	Kilogrammes.	0·5	Exempt.
Fils de coton—écrus	„	135	100
„ blanchis	„	200	150
„ teints	„	225	150
Toiles de coton et calicots—écrues	„	..	100
„ „ blanchies	„	..	125
Tissus de coton non dénommés—écrus	„	..	100
„ „ blanchis.. ..	„	..	300

N.B.—Le Tarif Conventionnel égale le droit sur les toiles de coton à celui des calicots, et abolit le nombre de fils comme base de l'application du droit, ce qui simplifie énormement la vérification de ces tissus, et met un terme aux nombreuses contestations qui ont lieu, non-seulement à cause de la difficulté qu'il y a à distinguer quelques variétés de toiles de coton et calicots, mais encore par la confusion qui se produit dans le compte des fils, surtout dans la limite des douze fils.

Il réduit en outre le droit des calicots et des toiles de coton écrus, de plus de douze fils, de 150 à 100 reis; celui des calicots blanchis de 275 à 100, et celui des toiles de coton blanchies, de plus de douze fils, de 175 à 125.

	Unités.	Droits Actuels.	Droits Conventionnels.
		Reis.	Reis.
Châles et mouchoirs de tissus de coton non croisés, teints ou imprimés	Kilogrammes.	700	550
Fils de jute ou d'autres filaments végétaux non dénommés, écrus, blanchis, ou teints	*Ad valorem.*	..	5 pour cent.
Tissus de jute ou d'autres filaments végétaux, écrus, blanchis ou teints	„	..	15 „
Morue et harengs secs, fumés, ou salés	Kilogrammes.	33·5	20 reis.
Chiffons de laine (à l'exportation)	*Ad valorem.*	30	½ pour cent.

(Translation.)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, January 18, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has the honour to state as follows to Sir A. Paget, with regard to the conversation which he had with his Excellency yesterday.

It is no longer a secret that preliminary negotiations have been entered into between the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty and that of Her Britannic Majesty for the conclusion of a Treaty, in virtue of which mutual concessions are made as regards the duties fixed by the Tariffs of the two nations. Some commercial houses in London to whom this has become known, have communicated the fact to their correspondents at Oporto.

The Press has given the greatest publicity to this news, which has been received as authentic on account of reliable data which accompanied it; and in expectation of the

reductions in the duties of the Import Tariff, commercial transactions have been interrupted. But this state of things may give rise to the gravest consequences.

With a view to conclude as speedily as possible the Treaty which definitively is to settle the commercial relations of the two countries, the Government of His Majesty has caused to be examined with the greatest care the duties which affect English imports on their entry into Portugal. For this reason the Undersigned does not hesitate to declare to Sir A. Paget that the reductions which His Majesty's Government is disposed to make in favour of England are those mentioned in the list which he has already communicated to his Excellency, and in the one hereto annexed. It is easy to appreciate from the statistics of imports, and the Tariff now in force, the great advantages which the industry and commerce of England would derive from these reductions.

It does not appear easy to the Government of His Majesty to amplify these concessions. If, however, in the course of the negotiations they find it possible to separate some articles from the group in which they are classed, without involving a great sacrifice of industrial and fiscal interests, they will not hesitate to open discussion on this head.

As regards navigation, the Government of His Majesty will grant to England, on condition of reciprocity, the same treatment as to its own subjects in regard both to direct and indirect relations. But before equalizing the legal conditions of competition between the mercantile marines of the two countries, the Government of His Majesty considers it indispensable to grant some advantages to the national marine, and to protect interests which, under the shelter of the present laws, are at a disadvantage in commercial operations which require distant voyages. Nevertheless, the delay after which English vessels would enjoy national treatment, as far as regards indirect commerce, would not exceed two years.

As regards the question of tare, the general rules of the Customs legislation of Portugal are those in force in the most enlightened countries of Europe, and offer to commerce every desirable security. His Majesty's Government is, however, disposed to introduce into the tariff of tare all improvements sanctioned by practice, and on this point they will take into consideration any representations which may be made to them.

It must, however, be clearly understood that the concessions indicated depend on the adherence by England to the conditions which the Undersigned has always maintained to be essential; which condition is, that the new regulations for the importation of Portuguese wines into that country shall lose their differential character, and shall not give greater advantages to the wines of other competing countries. If the Government of Her Britannic Majesty do not consent to raise the limits of the alcoholic scale for the duty of 1*s.* to the degree of proof spirit, which the experiments made show to be necessary to carry out this condition, the Government of His Majesty cannot offer compensations in exchange for any other alteration of the alcoholic scale.

The experiments recently made at Oporto by a Professor of the Agricultural Institute (Annex No. 2) prove that there are wines having an alcoholic strength of 43·8 degrees.

The limit for the duty of 1*s.* ought therefore to be at least 42 degrees for red wines, those which exceed that degree being subjected to the additional duty of 3*d.* per gallon, in conformity with the regulations now in force. As regards the import dues on white wines, the Government might accept the limit of 40 degrees.

In view of this statement the Government of His Majesty hope that the new Treaty may be concluded and signed with the promptitude demanded by the most important interests of commerce between the two countries.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

No. 1.—*Proposed additional Reductions to England.*

	Standard.	Actual Duties.	Conventional Duties.
		Reis.	Reis.
Cotton wool..	Kilogrammes.	0·5	Free
Cotton thread—unbleached	„	135	100
„ bleached	„	200	150
„ coloured	„	225	150
Cotton fabrics and calicoes—unbleached .. .	„	..	100
„ „ bleached	„	..	125
Cotton tissues, not specified—unbleached	„	..	100
„ „ bleached	„	..	300

N.B.—The Conventional Tariff equalizes the duty on cotton fabrics with that on calicoes, and abolishes the number of threads as test for the application of the duty, which greatly simplifies the recognition of these tissues, and puts an end to the numerous disputes which arise, not only on account of the difficulty in distinguishing some

varieties of cotton fabrics and calicoes, but also by the confusion produced by counting the threads, especially within the limit of twelve threads.

Moreover, it reduces the duty on calicoes and cotton fabrics, unbleached, of more than twelve threads, from 150 to 100 reis, that on bleached calico from 275 to 100, and that on bleached cotton fabrics of more than twelve threads from 175 to 125.

	Standard.	Actual Duties.	Conventional Duties.
		Reis.	Reis.
Shawls and handkerchiefs of cotton tissues not mixed (croisés), coloured or printed	Kilogrammes.	700	550
Threads of jute or other vegetable fibres not specified, unbleached, bleached, or coloured	*Ad valorem.*	..	5 per cent.
Tissues of jute or other vegetable fibres, unbleached, bleached, or coloured	„	..	15 per cent.
Codfish and herrings, dried, smoked, or salted ..	Kilogrammes.	33·5	20 reis.
Woollen rags (on exportation)	*Ad valorem.*	30	½ per cent.

(Translation.)

No. 2.—*Sitting held for the purpose of testing Wines on the 9th of January*, 1867.

THREE types of wine, being the growth of the estate ("Quinta do Vesovio") belonging to D. Antonia Adelaide Ferreira, were tested with English instruments.

	Degrees.
1st type, wine of 1815.—Alcoholic strength specified in English spirit proof ..	34
2nd type, wine of 1854.—Alcoholic strength as above	38·6
3rd type, wine of 1863.—Alcoholic strength as above	41·9

Sitting of the 10th of January.

Wines of the Firm of Sandeman and Co.

1st type (Nos. 1, 2, and 3).—Alcoholic strength specified in English spirit proof ..	39·1
2nd type (No. 2).—*Idem*	41·7
3rd type (No. 3).—*Idem*	41
4th type (No. 4).—*Idem*	39·4

Rebello Valente and F. Archer.

1st type, old wine for exportation (No. 1)	41·7
2nd type, wine of 1862 (No. 2)	32·3
3rd type, wine of 1863 (No. 3)	40·3
4th type, wine of 1864 (No. 4)	42·2

Hooper Brothers.

No. 1	38·7
No. 2	40·3
No. 3	41·4

Antonio Jose da Silva and Co.

1st type, old wine	39·9
2nd type, wine for shipment	41·6
3rd type, wine of 1864	41·6

Sitting of the 11th of January.

Antonio B. Ferreira.

1st type, old	35
2nd type, 1858	37·7
3rd type, 1863	41

Baron de Massarellos.

1st type, old	40
2nd type, 1863	40·7
3rd type, common	41·3

Roughton.

1st type, No. 1	39·1
2nd type, No. 2	38·8
3rd type, No. 3, 1865	40·7

Hurst, Roope, Teage, and Co.

1st type, old	38·9
2nd type, 1863	41·7
3rd type, rather common, for shipment	39·6

Baron do Seixo.

	Degrees.
1st type, No. 1, old superior, wine for shipment	38·4
2nd type, No. 2, new wine	39·3

Cockburn, Smith, and Co.

1st type, A	39·7
2nd type, B	38·1
3rd type, 1863	39·7

C. L. Gubian.

1st type	40
2nd type	39·9

Sitting of the 12th of January.

G. and J. Graham.

1st type, wine of 75*l.*	43·8
2nd type, wine of 1861	41
3rd type, wine of 1863	43·1

Croft and Co.

1st type, No. 1	41
2nd type, No. 2	39·6
3rd type, No. 3	42·4

Wine Company.

1st type, old superior wine for shipment	35·4
2nd type, new wine	38·9
3rd type, wine of a moderate price	41
4th type, wine called "do Dugue," a special wine	34

Taylor, Fladgate, and Yeatman.

1st type, old superior wine	40·3
2nd type, old wine of moderate price	42·4
3rd type, new wine of 1863	43·8

Silva Cozens.

1st type, old superior wine	40·3
2nd type, wine of middling quality	41
3rd type, wine of 1863	41

Session of the 13th of January.

Hunt, Roope, and Teage.

A, 60 degrees, 1st type, old	38·9
Ditto, 2nd type	41·7
Ditto, 3rd type	39·6

Firm C. S. (Cockburn, Smith, and Co.)

A, 60 degrees, 1st type, old	39·6
Ditto, 2nd type	38·2
Ditto, 3rd type	40·3

Messrs. Forsters.

A, 60 degrees, 1st type, old	38·9
Ditto, 2nd type	38·2
Ditto, 3rd type	41

Smith Woodhouse.

A, 60 degrees, 1st type, old	41·4
Ditto, 2nd type	41
Ditto, 3rd type	41

Firm W. G. R.

A, 60 degrees,	1st type	..	..	..	..	..	39·6
Ditto,	2nd type	..	..	..	..	..	38·9
Ditto,	3rd type	..	..	..	..	..	39·6

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Senhor Soares to Sir A. Paget.

Excellence, *Lisbonne, le* 18 *Janvier*, 1867.

J'AI reçu l'ordre de M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères d'insister sur la réduction des droits du Tarif Anglais à l'égard des fruits secs. Ce n'est pas que cette réduction est d'une grande valeur pour nous ; mais on pourrait remarquer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté stipulât au profit de l'Angleterre des avantages bien plus considérables que ceux qu'il a accordés à la France. Et il faut qu'on ne puisse pas dire que le Portugal a fait un Traité avec l'Angleterre seulement pour obtenir la réparation de ce qu'on regarde ici comme une grave injustice.

Je prie, &c.
(Signé) D. G. N. SOARES.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Lisbon, January* 18, 1867.

I HAVE received instructions from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to press the point as to the reduction of duties imposed in the English Tariff on dried fruit. Not that this reduction is of much importance to us, but it might be supposed that Her Majesty's Government conceded advantages to England far greater than those which they have granted to France. And it must not be said that Portugal has made a Treaty with England merely in order to obtain reparation for what is here considered a grave injustice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. G. N. SOARES.

No. 32.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 5.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, February* 19, 1867.

YOUR Lordship being already aware of the result of my interview with M. Cazal Ribeiro, when I informed his Excellency that I had not yet been furnished with any instructions in reply to the Portuguese proposals recently conveyed to your Lordship as a basis for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty, it remains for me to make a report of my conversation with the Portuguese Minister on this and on a subsequent occasion, which occurred the following day.

Both these conversations were of considerable duration, but I shall endeavour to report them as concisely as possible.

The first interview took place at the Chamber of Deputies, the second at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

I should mention that M Cazal Ribeiro's inquiries as to whether I had received any news on the subject of the Treaty had been very frequent and earnest, both prior to and on the return of Mr. Harriss from London. I was therefore fully prepared for the expression of a considerable amount of disappointment, when I should inform his Excellency, as I lost no time in doing, that unforeseen and unexpected difficulties in connection with fiscal questions had precluded your Lordship, much to your regret, from sending me instructions on the Commercial Treaty by the packet which had just come in. I added, at the same time, that your Lordship trusted these difficulties might still, to some extent, be overcome, and that eventually a good result might be brought about.

M. Cazal Ribeiro replied to this by saying that he presumed the hesitation of Her Majesty's Government arose out of disinclination to do anything in regard to the existing arrangements respecting the admission of Portuguese wines, which might be

displeasing to France. It is needless to say that I met this gratuitous assumption in the manner it deserved, and I then proceeded to explain to his Excellency, as far as my knowledge of the details of the question goes, what would be the effect upon the British revenue of the alteration which the Portuguese Government required, the facilities it would afford for illicit distillation, &c.

I did not, I am sorry to say, find M. Cazal Ribeiro disposed to listen very patiently to these explanations, still less to accept them as a valid ground for not complying with the Portuguese behests. He said, in the first place, that all these difficulties might have been foreseen and weighed beforehand. He had delayed the presentation of the French Treaty to the Chamber in the hope of laying that with Great Britain simultaneously on the table. He wished to know now whether we were to negotiate a Treaty or not, because in the latter case he would at once bring the Treaty with France before the Chamber of Deputies. In regard to the apprehended loss of revenue, the same argument might be held, with much more effect, by the Portuguese Government to our demand for reductions in their Tariff, and he would reply at once by the reasoning which had been so frequently made use of to this country that increased consumption would make up for diminished duty. He contended that the apprehensions respecting illicit distillation were unfounded, and repeated what he has so frequently asserted, in our conversations, that spirits could not be extracted from port wine as a profitable transaction. He proceeded to say that it had been reported to him from London that Her Majesty's Government had an idea of proposing a duty of 1*s.* 8*d.* instead of the present duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* on wines above 26 degrees alcoholic strength. Now, if such was the case, he begged me clearly to understand that he was positively determined to negotiate on no such basis, which would be the maintenance, though on a diminished scale, of the differential duty now existing on wines from Portugal. He declared emphatically that there was not one member in the whole Chamber who would support him in such a course.

I begged M. Cazal Ribeiro to remark that the point he had last mentioned had been brought forward by himself; that I had made no allusion to it whatever; that I was not prepared to say whether Her Majesty's Government had or had not any such intention, but that if they had, I begged him very seriously to reflect upon it, and if a proposal of the kind should be made, not to reject it in the summary manner he expressed himself determined to do. He, I said, must of course be the best judge of the sentiments of his own countrymen in the chamber, but I confessed that it would appear to me a most extraordinary circumstance if the wine interests at Oporto, for which he professed to have so much respect, did not mark their resentment when it should be known, as known of course it would be, that having had it in his power to secure half the advantage which they sought, he had rejected it, because he could not obtain the whole. I said in reply to his complaint respecting the present delay in the negotiations, that I was aware of no reason why, if he was anxious to do so, he should not at once present the French Treaty to the Chambers; that it was a matter which appeared to me to rest entirely with him to decide; that, as regarded his observation that he was justified in replying to us respecting any loss of revenue that might be apprehended by an alteration of our wine duties, by the same argument which has been used, when a reduction of the Portuguese Tariff was urged, I could not admit its applicability to the case in point. What was complained of in Portugal, I said, was that the Portuguese Tariff maintained a high protecting, and in some cases a prohibitory duty on articles of prime necessity and general consumption, whereby they not only inflicted great restrictions on foreign commerce, but tended to impoverish their own country, and when therefore we urged a reduction of the duties on these articles, and pointed out that increased consumption would more than repay a diminution of duties, we spoke from the experience which the adoption of these principles had afforded, not only in Great Britain but also in every country which had tried them. But the case of port wine was entirely different, for no one could maintain that this was an article of either prime necessity or of general consumption, and yet we were asked to diminish the duty, and lose a large item of revenue, simply for the benefit of a particular branch of trade in a foreign country. I contested M. Cazal Ribeiro's argument as to the differential nature of the duty on wines in England. If, I said, the price of light French wines was compared with the price of port wine, the duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* on the latter, was not more than 1*s.* on the former.

His Excellency said, that were it not for the heavy duty there were plenty of wines which might be supplied from Portugal, at even a lower price than light French wines. I interposed that in this case, they would probably come within the lower rate of duty according to the present scale; but he said, that such would not be the case, and he took a pencil and made a calculation that he could supply off his own property wines fit for

exportation, at about 50 reis (4*d.*) a bottle, excellent wines, but of fuller body than any French wine of the same class, and consequently probably liable to the higher duty. But even at the lower duty, he pointed out that the rate would be about 100 per cent. His Excellency maintained that salt-fish in Portugal was precisely in the position in which I had described port wine to be in England; no loss to the Exchequer from diminished duty was likely to be made up by increased consumption. A few hundred thousand pounds was, his Excellency contended, a mere flea-bite in the flourishing condition of the finances of Great Britain, and we refused to make the sacrifice, while the Portuguese Government, in their state of penury, had declared themselves prepared to make a reduction of the duty on salt-fish, from which a positive loss to the revenue would ensue.

I replied that there was one point in the comparison which his Excellency had omitted—the considerations connected with illicit distillation This remark drew forth the usual retort that illicit distillation was not to be feared, because it could not be carried on profitably. I claimed, however, for our own authorities the privilege of being the best judges in such a matter.

To pursue the narrative of this conversation any further would only be a useless occupation of your Lordship's time. Sufficient has been said to show M. Cazal Ribeiro's present frame of mind. In the second interview he repeated over and over again just as determinedly as in the first, that he would not negotiate on any basis which he is pleased to call a maintenance of a differential duty. Reduce the duty we might, he said, from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*, but we should receive nothing for it; he would not even thank us. He should deeply regret not making a Treaty with England, but in the event of failing to do so, he should negotiate with other countries. Sweden could supply salt fish, he remarked. Anxious to extend their commercial relations, they had applied first to their old friends, but they failing, they would address themselves to others, and our commerce would suffer.

Had I been disposed to controversy, I might have inquired since when France had been considered an older friend to Portugal than Great Britain, because it is that country which has had the priority of the favour alluded to by his Excellency. I contented myself, however, by setting him right on a matter of fact, which, from the tone of his observations lately, it appeared to me he had again lost sight of. I said that he spoke as if Great Britain had been the Power who had come to Portugal as solicitor for a Treaty of Commerce.

Now, without undervaluing the importance which we attached to obtaining a better position for our trade with this country, I must remind his Excellency that it was the Portuguese Government who, professedly desirous of ameliorating their commercial system, had addressed themselves to Her Majesty's Government to assist them in carrying out their views, by alleviating the Portuguese wine trade of the burden which they considered weighed unjustly upon it in England. Her Majesty's Government had stated their willingness to examine the question, with the desire of meeting the views of the Portuguese Government, and they had done so; but it appeared that their information was not yet sufficiently complete to enable them to return a definite reply to the proposals which had been made to them. His Excellency must remember, however, I continued, that the amount of the British trade with Portugal was not of such dimensions as to justify Her Majesty's Government in exposing the Treasury to above a certain measure of loss in the revenue connected with the wine and spirit duties, that of a certain portion of our surplus, it might perhaps be possible to dispose as an alleviation to the wine trade; but that, of course, there must be a limit to the sacrifice; that whether the Portuguese Government accept or not any offer which might now be made to them by Her Majesty's Government, certain it was that ere long the Portuguese commercial system must undergo a modification in accordance with the spirit of the times, for it would be impossible for them, even in company with their next neighbour, to maintain for many more years a system, alike at variance with the interests of their own subjects and of foreign nations. It was therefore for the Portuguese Government to consider whether they would not now avail themselves of the advantages, which although they might not come up entirely to what they might want or to their expectations, would certainly be a great present benefit to an important branch of their commerce, and might possibly be subsequently extended, or whether they would prefer to wait until, by the force of circumstances, they were compelled to diminish their Tariff without receiving any corresponding advantage. Certain it was, I said, that no alteration of the wine duties would now be made in England, without our trade receiving a very substantial benefit in Portugal, and on this point I begged his Excellency to entertain no illusions whatever.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 33.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Paget.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 6, 1867.

THE delay which has occurred in furnishing you with instructions in regard to the communications which have passed between you and the Portuguese Government respecting the commercial relations between this country and Portugal, has been the result of the anxiety which Her Majesty's Government have felt to meet the views of the Portuguese Government, so far as those views could be reconciled with British interests. Her Majesty's Government have regretted the limits which have been placed on the commercial intercourse between the two countries under the existing system, and they have appreciated the desire which the Portuguese Government have shown to place matters on a better footing, and to enlarge the principles of their commercial legislation by following the course which in other countries has been attended with success.

You have already been enabled by instructions from this office to point out to the Portuguese Government how greatly it would be for the interests of Portugal that a liberal commercial policy should be adopted spontaneously, and not on conditions of barter, by requiring concessions from other countries as the price of arrangements in themselves necessary for Portuguese prosperity. This, however, was a matter for the consideration of the Portuguese Government themselves, and Her Majesty's Government considered it a duty on their side to examine carefully the proposals of Portugal, with an earnest desire to comply with them if only they should prove compatible with the principles upon which the revenue system of this country is based.

In this respect the condition which the Portuguese Government appear to consider as indispensable to the reduction of their Tariff, and to other concessions in favour of the commerce of the United Kingdom, namely such a reduction in the duties on wine in this country as would permit Portuguese wine to compete on equal terms with the wines of other countries, appears to be the vital point on which the question depends, and has been fully considered by Her Majesty's Government in that light.

Her Majesty's Government understand that the arrangement which the Portuguese Government propose in this respect is, that wines containing 40 degrees and under of proof spirit, should be admitted in this country at a duty of 1*s.* a gallon. Such a reduction would, however, involve a large sacrifice of British revenue, whilst a very gradual increase of consumption could be expected; but even were Her Majesty's Government prepared to make such a sacrifice, there would still remain the important question as to the effect of the proposed reduction on the revenue derived from the duties on spirits which forms so considerable an item in the national balance sheet.

After a most careful consideration of the question from this point of view, Her Majesty's Government have arrived at the conclusion that it would be impossible to adopt the Portuguese proposal without such serious risk to the national revenue derived from spirits, as would make such a course inadmissible on their part, and they have therefore no alternative but to decline to adopt the proposal of the Portuguese Government in its present shape.

In doing so they are, however, unwilling to leave the question without offering to the Portuguese Government a counter proposal, embodying the extreme point of concession to which they are justified in going with due regard to British interests, and although they fear from the tenor of the communications made to you by the Portuguese Government that the concession which they can thus offer must fall far short of the wishes of Portugal, you are hereby authorised to state to the Portuguese Government that, if on a reconsideration of the circumstances of the case, and of the difficulties in which Her Majesty's Government are placed in dealing with the point, the Portuguese Government should be of opinion that they can pursue the negotiation on the basis of a reduction of the wine duty in this country to 2*s.* a gallon (or by one-fifth), Her Majesty's Government will undertake to propose a measure to Parliament for that object.

In making a proposal in this sense to the Portuguese Government, you will be careful to make it clearly understood that so far as wine is concerned Her Majesty's Government have thus gone to the utmost limit of concession in their power. If, however, the Portuguese Government are willing to negotiate on this basis, there are other duties levied in British ports on other products of Portugal which Her Majesty's Government would gladly consider with a view to repeal or reduction for corresponding concessions on the part of Portugal, and Her Majesty's Government would be glad to find that, in this manner means might be arrived at for realizing the views of mutual commercial

advantage to Portugal and England which Her Majesty's Government fully share with the Government of Portugal.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 34.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Paget.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, March* 6, 1867.

IN the last paragraph of my preceding despatch I have alluded to the desire which Her Majesty's Government feel that other concessions irrespective of the wine duties might contribute towards the success of a commercial negotiation between this country and Portugal, but I learn from the Board of Trade that the duties in question on Portuguese products are of minor importance, being in fact those on certain dried fruits and figs, on the last of which an average revenue of little more than 6,000*l.* has been raised in the last five years. You will therefore not give much prominence to this consideration in your communications with the Portuguese Government.

No. 35.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 22.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, March* 14, 1867.

I HAD the honour to receive, yesterday, your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, relative to the Commercial Treaty with Portugal; and I waited this morning, by appointment, on M. Cazal Ribeiro for the purpose of communicating to him the instructions it contained.

As the simplest, and at the same time the most efficient way of doing so, I read the despatch to him, stopping at the end of the paragraph which authorizes me to state, that if the Portuguese Government would be willing to pursue the negotiations on the basis of the reduction of the wine duty in England to 2*s.* a gallon (or by one-fifth), Her Majesty's Government would undertake to propose a measure in Parliament for that purpose.

Your Lordship will be prepared for the answer of M. Cazal Ribeiro to this proposition which it is now my duty to record, namely that the Portuguese Government decline to negotiate on this basis. He could not, he said, negotiate a treaty where any "differential" duty on Portuguese wines, whether that duty should be 2*s.* 6*d.*, 2*s.*, or 1*s.* 8*d.*, was to be maintained. This declaration at once relieved me from the necessity of making any allusion to other duties on Portuguese produce which might be taken off.

I consequently addressed M. Cazal Ribeiro the note of which I have the honour to inclose herewith a copy, and which, I trust, your Lordship will approve.

Inclosure in No. 35.

Sir A. Paget to Senhor Ribeiro.

M. le Ministre, *Lisbon, March* 14, 1867.

IN reply to the communications which I have received from your Excellency embodying the proposals of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that those proposals have been taken into the most serious consideration by Her Majesty's Government, with an earnest desire to meet the views of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, so far as those views could be reconciled with British interests.

Her Majesty's Government have regretted the limits which have been placed on the commercial intercourse between the two countries under the existing system, and they have appreciated the desire which the Portuguese Government have shown to place matters on a better footing.

Acting under the instructions which I have received from Lord Stanley, I have already on various occasions endeavoured to point out to your Excellency how greatly it would be for the interests of Portugal that a liberal commercial policy should be adopted

spontaneously by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and not on condition of barter, by requiring concessions from other countries as the price of arrangements in themselves necessary for Portuguese prosperity.

This, however, was a matter for the consideration of the Portuguese Government themselves, and Her Majesty's Government have thought it a duty on their side to examine carefully the proposals of Portugal with an earnest desire to comply with them if only they should prove compatible with the principles upon which the revenue system of Great Britain is based.

In this respect the condition which the Portuguese Government appear to consider as indispensable to the reduction of their Tariff, and to other concessions in favour of the commerce of the United Kingdom, viz., such reduction in the duties on wine in Great Britain as would, in the opinion of the Portuguese Government, permit Portuguese wines to compete on equal terms with the wines of other countries, appears to be the vital point on which the question depends, and has been fully considered by Her Majesty's Government in that light.

Her Majesty's Government understand that the arrangements which the Portuguese Government propose in this respect is that wines containing 40 degrees and under of proof spirit should be admitted in Great Britain at a duty of 1*s.* a gallon. Such a reduction would, however, involve a large sacrifice of British revenue, whilst a very gradual increase of consumption could be expected; but even were Her Majesty's Government prepared to make such a sacrifice there would still remain the important question as to the effect of the proposed reduction in the revenue derived from the duties on spirits, which forms so considerable an item in the national balance-sheet.

After a most careful consideration of the question from this point of view, Her Majesty's Government have arrived at the conclusion that it would be impossible to adopt the Portuguese proposal without such serious risk to the national revenue derived from spirits as would make such a course inadmissible on their part, and they have, therefore, no alternative but to decline to adopt the proposal of the Portuguese Government in its present shape.

In doing so they are, however, unwilling to leave the question without offering to the Portuguese Government a counter proposal embodying the extreme point of concession to which they are justified in going with due regard to British interests.

I am therefore instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to state to your Excellency that if His Most Faithful Majesty's Government should be of opinion that they can pursue the negotiation on the basis of the reduction of the wine duty in Great Britain to 2*s.* a gallon (or by one-fifth, being equivalent to one-third of the reduction demanded by Portugal), Her Majesty's Government will undertake to propose a measure to Parliament for that object.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 36.

Lord Stanley to Sir A. Paget.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, March* 25, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 14th instant, from which Her Majesty's Government regret to learn that the proposal which they have made to the Portuguese Government as to the basis of a new Commercial Treaty between the two countries has not proved acceptable to the Portuguese Government.

I have much pleasure in stating to you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the judgment and temper with which you have conducted the negotiation with the Portuguese Government in this matter.

No. 37.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, April* 11, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note which I received last night from M. Cazal Ribeiro, in answer to that which I addressed to his Excellency on the 14th of March, stating that Her Majesty's Government could not accept the Portuguese

proposals as a basis for a Commercial Treaty, and the terms on which Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to negotiate.

Senhor Cazal Ribeiro argues at great length in support of his original proposal, and endeavours to show that the fears entertained by Her Majesty's Government as to the loss of revenue in consequence of the illicit distillation which would take place if wines containing 42 degrees proof strength were admitted at the 1*s.* duty are unfounded. He alludes to the disadvantage in which British commerce will be placed by being excluded from the benefits which will be obtained by France and other countries, with whom Treaties of Commerce have been or will be made, and concludes by stating that the Portuguese Government, acting in a spirit of conciliation, and with a desire to develop the commercial relations between the two countries, will be prepared, on Her Majesty's Government agreeing to admit Portuguese wines between 26 and 42 degrees alcoholic strength at 20*d.* duty, and to fix a reasonable period (to be agreed upon between the two Contracting Parties) at the expiration of which they will be admitted at the 1*s.* duty, to concede at once to imports from Great Britain certain of the reductions mentioned in his Excellency's note to me of the 18th of January last, reserving the other part of those reductions to the period when the 1*s.* duty should come into force.

With reference to this statement I have thought it advisable, with a view to the more complete information of Her Majesty's Government, to endeavour to ascertain at once what are the reductions which are intended by the Portuguese Government in the event of their proposal being entertained by Her Majesty's Government, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of the note which I have addressed to his Excellency making this inquiry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Senhor Ribeiro to Sir A. Paget.

(Translation.) *Foreign Department, Lisbon, April* 9, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, received the note which Sir Augustus B. Paget did him the honour to address to him on the 14th of March last, and in which he states that Her Britannic Majesty's Government does not accept the proposal for the negotiation of a new Commercial Treaty between Portugal and Great Britain, in the terms in which it had been made by the Portuguese Government.

The Undersigned does not conceal from Sir A. B. Paget the regret of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government on receiving the communication which his Excellency made to it in the name of his Government; a regret which is still deeper on account of the well-grounded hope which was entertained that the new Treaty, upon the basis proposed, would have shortly been brought to a termination and signed.

In the instructions given to Count Lavradio, in virtue of which the proposal was made, His Majesty's Government immediately declared frankly and categorically that the abolition of the alcoholic scale, or at least such an alteration as would withdraw from the import duties on wine into England all their differential character against the Portuguese wines, was a condition, *sine quâ non*, of the proposed negotiation.

In the note addressed to Count de Rilvas, on the 7th of September, 1866, Lord Stanley endeavoured to prove that the Portuguese Government ought to reform the Customs Tariff in the interest of Portugal; but he added that if, nevertheless, it should appear probable that the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty with England would facilitate the reforms which the Portuguese Government contemplated, Her Britannic Majesty's Government were disposed to entertain the proposal made by Count Lavradio: "Her Majesty's Government are prepared to entertain the proposal."

In the Memorandum addressed to Lord Stanley in reply to this note, through Count de Rilvas, His Majesty's Government proved most evidently that the most legitimate interests of Portugal did not allow of the pursuing of a commercial policy different from that which had been inaugurated by France and by England in 1860, and subsequently adopted by other countries of Europe.

At a later period, Sir A. B. Paget, in accordance with the instructions which he had received from his Government, had endeavoured to ascertain what were the reductions which His Majesty's Government was disposed to make in the Customs duties in favour of

British industry and trade. This information would not have been sought for by Sir A. B. Paget without looking upon the fundamental basis of the negotiation as accepted in principle, in the terms in which it had been proposed by His Majesty's Government. The reductions of the Customs duties which His Majesty's Government felt disposed to make, fell upon the chief articles of importation from England into Portugal, and constituted a large compensation for the sacrifice of revenue which might perchance accrue to the British Treasury from the reduction of the import duties on Portuguese wines in England, if such a reduction should not be immediately compensated by an increased consumption, as everything tended to show it would.

His Majesty's Government always expected that its proposal would have been favourably received by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, or at least that it would not have been rejected unless weighty reasons should have been alleged on the part of England in order to justify the continuation of the regulations now in force with respect to wines; which reasons His Majesty's Government was not able to discover, and with which, nevertheless, it required to become acquainted in order to satisfy the national interests which are affected by those regulations.

His Majesty's Government could not, therefore, fail to receive with deep regret the communication made to it that Her Britannic Majesty's Government does not accept the Portuguese proposal in the terms in which it was made, and the more so because it is convinced that the reasons now alleged by Her Britannic Majesty's Government do not justify that decision.

There are two reasons which, as stated by Sir. A. B. Paget, have induced Her Britannic Majesty's Government to reject the Portuguese proposal:—

1. That the reduction to 1*s.* of the duty on wines containing up to 40 degrees of proof spirit would entail a great sacrifice of British revenue until the increase of consumption should have taken place, which could not be otherwise than very gradual.

2. That even were the British Government disposed to make this sacrifice, there still remained the question as to the effect which the proposed reduction would produce upon the revenue derived from the duties on consumption (excise) on spirits which constitute one of the principal items of the British revenue.

It does not appear to His Majesty's Government that the first reason can have any weight upon the enlightened mind of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, who was, a short time ago, advising and now again advises the Portuguese Government to reduce the duties of its Customs tariff in the interests of its own country and independently of any compensations offered by England. Her Britannic Majesty's Government reveal, in this opinion, their most lively faith in the principles of economy and in the results of experience, and they believe that His Majesty's Government would find in the development of trade and in an increased consumption a large compensation for any loss which the reductions of the Customs duties migh produce in the Portuguese revenue. The same laws of economy cannot produce different effects under analogous circumstances according to their application to Portugal or to England, but here everything tends to make one believe that the effect would be more rapid and sure in favour of England than in favour of Portugal.

A reduction of the Customs duties produces, as a rule, an increase of consumption which may be more or less gradual and slow, according to the circumstances in which such a reduction shall have been made and to the articles upon which it shall have fallen. But if there is any article on which a reduction ought to produce an immediate increase of comsuption—such an article is, doubtless, wine. If there are circumstances in which a Government is able to favour the interests of the consumers without compromising those of the Treasury, to carry out the principles in which it has faith, to continue the reforms tending to free trade, such circumstances are doubtless those in which the British Government are placed.

The public revenue in the United Kingdom amounted, in the financial year which has just expired, to 69,434,568*l.*, showing an excess over and above the amount of the previous year of more than 1,600,000*l.*, and over and above the amount in the budget of more than 2,400,000*l.* This wonderful increase—a sure sign of public prosperity—took place chiefly in the proceeds of customs and excise, the amount in the latter being 920,000*l.* over and above the estimated revenue and 1,380,000*l.* under the head of Customs wherein some duties, and *nominatim* the duty on bottled wines, had been diminished.

With respect to Portugal, the Customs duties levied upon articles of importation from England are not, as a rule, purely fiscal, but, on the contrary, they are mostly fiscal and protecting at the same time. The equity with which the interests nurtured under the shade of the laws in force deserve to be treated did not allow His Majesty's

Government to make, in the duties upon some of those articles, reductions to a sufficient extent to produce, immediately, such an increase of consumption as would promptly compensate for the loss. On other articles the reduction of duty, no matter how large, could not produce any great increase of consumption, which is naturally limited by other circumstances. Nevertheless, His Majesty's Government was willing to make important reductions in the Customs duties upon the principal articles of importations from England, reductions which, remembering their due proportion to the total revenue of the State in the two countries, would entail an incomparably greater sacrifice than that which Her Britannic Majesty's Government alleged as a cogent reason for not adopting the Portuguese proposal. And it is, moreover, well to take notice that His Majesty's Government was willing to make this sacrifice on an occasion in which, while struggling against a considerable deficit and with the object of re-establishing an equilibrium in the budget, it has recourse to a tax on the consumption of native products and articles of food, such as meat, wine, oil, and rice.

His Majesty's Government is not acquainted with the experiments or the reasonings which carried Her Britannic Majesty's Government to the conclusion that they could not reduce to 1*s.* the duty on wines containing up to 40 degrees of proof spirit, without compromising the revenue on spirits, under the head of Excise. It has on several occasions been said, it is true, that the alcoholic scale is intended to prevent the frauds which might arise from the importation of strongly-alcoholized wines. But all the arguments which it has been endeavoured to bring forward to prove the possibility of fraud, are void of foundation, because all suppose that the alcohol can be concealed in the wine, and separated therefrom without having recourse to the process of distillation. If this were the case, the difference which exists at present between the duty on wines and the duty on spirits would already be a sufficient inducement to fraud. The import duty on spirits, 10*s.* per gallon, is the quadruple of what is paid on wines containing up to 42 degrees of alcohol; and nobody will assert that this difference is not sufficiently great to encourage the defrauding of the Excise duty were such a fraud practically possible. Fraud could only be committed by means of illicit distillation, but against illicit distillation there exist the Excise officers, with all the means which they possess for controlling and repressing, in virtue of the laws, and of which they have so efficaciously made use. Her Britannic Majesty's Commissioners stated in their 9th Report:—

"So far as we can learn, the illicit spirit is made for the supply of the local population alone, and does not find its way into the great towns. The consumers are those who are too poor to buy the duty-paid spirit, and therefore, although we deplore the existence of the practice, we consider it scarcely worth notice as regards the revenue. Certain it is that all the distillers have been fully at work, and that the prices have been remunerative to the legal manufacturer."

Supposing, however (what is otherwise inadmissible), with reference to the above-mentioned document, the most trustworthy and unsuspicious that can be alleged upon this matter; supposing that illicit distillation could be set up and carried into operation in the large cities and at the large ports of England, it is not easy to understand how a high duty on the importation of wine can be the supplementary and indispensable guarantee of the Excise duty on spirits, when such a guarantee is not required with respect to fruits, cereals, and other prime articles from which, under much easier circumstances, and with a far cheaper article, alcohol is extracted.

Never would the industry of licit or illicit distillation go in search of Portuguese wines, costing a high price, for the purpose of converting them into spirit. The alcohol contained in wines exported from Portugal is either native or foreign. The extraction of native spirit does not obtain a price sufficiently remunerative for the industry of distillation in Portugal, although it is highly protected from the Customs duties against foreign competition. Long-continued experience has proved that it is impossible to extract with profit from the commercial wines of Portugal the fine or table spirits, because even if they did not possess the defect which practice and science have not yet discovered the means of correcting, they would never be able to compete, both in price and in quality, with other similar products which have already established their credit, and acquired the taste of the consumers, principally in the English markets. The foreign spirits which are mixed with the commercial wines of Portugal are to a great extent imported from Spain, from the United States, or from the bonded warehouses of England. A mercantile speculation, which would consist in buying Portuguese wines in the English docks, at a cost which could not be less than 25*l.*, in order to extract therefrom either native spirits, which do not obtain a sufficiently remunerative price in Portugal, inasmuch as the wines employed for the purposes of distillation cost more than 4*l.* 10*s.*, or foreign spirits, which are overloaded with the expenses of freight, commission, and insurance, and with the heavy

Customs duties in Portugal on spirits, and on wines in England, such a speculation would be so far ruinous that it cannot even be admitted as an hypothesis.

Examining the question on every side, His Majesty's Government had acquired a deep conviction that the British Government could immediately reduce to 1*s.* the duty on wines containing up to 42 degrees proof spirit, without the slightest fear of facilitating a fraud that would endanger the public revenue; and, in spite of the opinion to the contrary which, with disagreeable surprise, and after the precedents above quoted, it finds expressed on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government in Sir A. B. Paget's note, it still entertains the belief that a more detailed study of the subject will induce the British Government to accept the proposed reform, if not immediately complete, at least at a not very distant period to be fixed by mutual agreement.

The counter proposal offered by Sir A. B. Paget in the name of his Government, and which consists in a reduction to 2*s.* of the duty levied on wines containing from 26 to 40 degrees proof spirit, cannot be accepted by His Majesty's Government as the basis of a Treaty of Reciprocity for the stipulation of mutual concessions. The sincere desire of His Majesty's Government to improve the commercial relations between Portugal and England would lay the Undersigned under the obligation of stating in this place the reasons why he cannot accept that counter-proposal, if he had not already stated them at great length in the memorandum which he had the honour to address to Her Britannic Majesty's Government through the Portuguese Legation in London. A Treaty concluded upon such a basis would not satisfy the legitimate national interests which determined His Majesty's Government to set these negotiations on foot. A reduction of one-fifth in the present rate of duty would doubtless be of some importance, but the duty of 20*d.*, which Lord Stanley appears to have suggested to Count de Rilvas, or the duty of 2*s.*, which Sir A. Paget points out as the maximum concession which Her Britannic Majesty's Government show themselves disposed to make, would still be a differential duty of 66 or 100 per cent. against Portuguese wines, and would keep up an unjustifiable inequality in the legal conditions of competition in favour of the wines of France and of other countries.

By the continuation in this manner of the injustice against which our chief article of exportation has for seven years been struggling in the English markets, Portuguese agriculture and trade would neither meet with the satisfaction of their constant and well-grounded complaints, nor would the Portuguese Government have, in the opinion of the country, and in its own conscience, any possible justification for the commercial concessions which it might make to Great Britain under such circumstances. While the basis adopted in 1860 for the regulation of the import duties on wines shall continue to constitute an inversion of those of the Methuen Treaty which Her Majesty's Government neither proposes nor wishes to establish, until competition shall have been opened for our wines, not under a rule of privilege, but under a rule of equality, the Government cannot yield to its wishes for the extension of the commercial relations traditionally established between the two countries at the cost of considerable sacrifices for the Treasury, and for the interests of industry.

In taking the initiative of the proposal for a new Treaty of Commerce in the terms pointed out, and in endeavouring to promote the speedy conclusion of that international act, His Majesty's Government has not only religiously complied on its part with the obligations stipulated in the IVth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, but it has also given a new and unequivocal proof of the value which it attaches to the ancient and friendly relations which happily subsist between the two nations. Convinced of the necessity of pursuing the commercial policy inaugurated in 1860, and having for this purpose concluded and signed on the 11th of July of last year a Treaty of Commerce with France, and before entering into any new negotiations of the same kind His Majesty's Government directed all its efforts to the conclusion of a new Treaty with England, which might be ratified at the same time as the Treaty with France, in order that British products might not remain in an unfavourable position, even for one day, with respect to French products in the markets of Portugal. Now a duty of loyalty towards France, and the no less sacred and incontestable duty of promoting the industrial and commercial interests of the country, lay His Majesty's Government under the obligation of demanding with as little delay as possible from Parliament, the authorization to ratify the Treaty with France, and to set on foot and conclude identical negotiations with other countries upon the basis of a just reciprocity; endeavouring, in exchange for compensations, to open for our products of exportation markets where they can advantageously compete with the similar products of other countries.

If the products of England shall be placed in an unfavourable position in the Portuguese market with respect to the products of other nations; if the natural and progressive

increase of the commercial relations between the two countries shall meet with a new obstacle in the rule which it is indispensable to adopt in Portugal, at least it remains evident that we did not set up the first barrier; but, on the contrary, that in endeavouring to destroy that which was set up in England against our interests, we did not spare any efforts and sacrifices.

The Undersigned might confine himself to this statement, only hoping that a more attentive examination of the state of the question would convince Her Britannic Majesty's Government of the urgency of modifying their counter-proposal. Nevertheless, such is the desire which animates His Majesty's Government of preventing the above-mentioned inconvenience, and of proving in an unequivocal manner its willingness to accede to every means of conciliation that does not affect the national interests, that the Undersigned does not hesitate to declare that if Her Britannic Majesty's Government would consent to reduce immediately to 20*d.* per gallon the import duties on wines between 26 and 42 degrees, and would fix a reasonable term at the expiration of which the duty would descend to the normal duty of 1*s.* per gallon, the Portuguese Government, on its side, would immediately grant to England a part of the reductions which it showed itself disposed to make, and which are mentioned in the documents which were inclosed in the note of the 18th of January last, reserving the other part of those reductions until the same period when the rule of equality for all wines should begin to be in force in England. If these bases were accepted the negotiation might easily be continued; and it would afford great satisfaction to His Majesty's Government to bring the same spedily to a favourable conclusion for the trade of both countries.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Sir A. Paget to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, April 11, 1867.

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note dated the 9th instant, which Senhor Cazal Ribeiro, &c., has done him the honour to address to him in reply to his note of the 14th of March last, in which the Undersigned stated the reasons which compelled Her Majesty's Government to decline the proposals of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government as a basis for a Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, and the terms on which Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to negotiate.

Senhor Cazal Ribeiro rejects these terms, but states in the concluding paragraph of his note that if Her Majesty's Government "would consent to reduce immediately to 20*d.* per gallon the import duties on wines between 26 and 42 degrees, and would fix a reasonable term at the expiration of which the duty would descend to the normal duty of 1*s.* per gallon, the Portuguese Government, on its side, would immediately grant to England a part of the reductions which it showed itself disposed to make, and which are mentioned in the documents which were inclosed in the note of the 18th of January last, reserving the other part of those reductions until the same period when the rule of equality for all wines should begin to be in force in England."

The Undersigned will feel obliged to Senhor Cazal Ribeiro if his Excellency will have the goodness to state to him, for the more complete information of Her Majesty's Government, what are the reductions which, in virtue of the above declaration, will be made on articles of British commerce by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government in the event of their present proposal being accepted by Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 38.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 20.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, April* 15, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th instant, I have the honour to inclose herewith a translation of the reply which I have received from M. Cazal Ribeiro to my note of the above date, requesting his Excellency to inform me what reductions would be made in the duty on British goods by the Portuguese Government in the event of their new proposal being accepted by Her Majesty's Government.

M. Cazal Ribeiro states that the Portuguese Government would immediately grant

all the reductions stipulated in favour of France in the Tariff B annexed to the Treaty of July 11, 1866; would extend to Great Britain the treatment of the most favoured nation; and would likewise immediately adopt the proposed exemption in favour of metals, raw, forged, or hammered. His Excellency adds, however, that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government would not refuse to enter into discussion of other reductions beyond those now proposed, provided they are not such as greatly to affect the Customs revenue.

Your Lordship will see that M. Cazal Ribeiro alludes to the satisfaction with which he received my note of the 11th instant, as showing that I justly appreciated "the conciliatory spirit which dictated his note of the 9th of April, and that the suggestion made in the latter part of that note will be taken into consideration by Her Britannic Majesty's Government;" but as I had certainly no intention of indicating any opinion of my own on his note, or of giving rise to hopes and expectations (which may not be realized) as to the manner in which the proposal it contains will be received by Her Majesty's Government, I have deemed it advisable, to prevent the possibility of future misunderstanding, to set his Excellency right on these points, and I have the honour to inclose a copy of my note to him for this purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Senhor Ribeiro to Sir A. Paget.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, April* 13, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has received the note which Sir A. B. Paget did him the honour to address to him on the 11th of this month, wherein he requests to be made acquainted with the reductions which, in virtue of the declaration made to him by the Undersigned in his note of the 9th of the same month, His Majesty's Government is disposed to make in the duties upon articles of importation from England, in order that he may communicate the same to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, in case the latter should accept the proposal made by His Majesty's Government, as contained in the abovementioned note of the 9th of this month.

The Undersigned has received with pleasure Sir A. B. Paget's note, inasmuch as he sees signs therein that the conciliatory spirit which dictated the note of the 9th of April has been justly appreciated by Sir A. B. Paget, and that the suggestion made in the latter part of that note will be taken into consideration by Her Britannic Majesty's Government. He does not therefore hesitate to declare that should the basis pointed out be accepted, His Most Faithful Majesty's Government would immediately grant all the reductions stipulated in favour of France in the Tariff B annexed to the Treaty of July 11, 1866; would extend to Great Britain any other reductions which might be made in future in virtue of Treaties in favour of other Powers, upon the mutual establishment with respect to the duty on merchandise of the treatment of the most favoured nation, *ipso facto*, and without being subject to any new concessions; and would likewise immediately adopt the proposed exemption in favour of metals, raw, forged, or hammered.

These are the reductions which appear to His Majesty's Government to be sufficient for the present, reserving the concession of the other reductions until the time which should be fixed for the 1*s.* duty to come into operation in England upon Portuguese wines. Nevertheless His Majesty's Government does not refuse to enter into a discussion of some other reduction out of those proposed, in order that it may take effect immediately, provided it is such as not greatly to affect the Customs revenue.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Sir A. Paget to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, April 15, 1867.

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of M. Cazal Ribeiro's note of the 13th instant, stating, in reply to the note of the Undersigned of the 11th instant, the reductions which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will be prepared to make on British imports into Portugal in the event of Her Majesty's Government

agreeing to the proposal contained in the note of M. Cazal Ribeiro to the Undersigned of the 9th instant. The Undersigned will immediately transmit a copy of M. Cazal Ribeiro's communication to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

With reference, however, to that paragraph of the note in which M. Cazal Ribeiro expresses satisfaction at the inquiry addressed to him on the 11th instant by the Undersigned, "inasmuch as he sees signs therein that the conciliatory spirit which dictated the note of the 9th of April has been justly appreciated by Sir A. Paget, and that the latter part of that note will be taken into consideration by Her Britannic Majesty's Government," the Undersigned deems it necessary to observe that in addressing M. Cazal Ribeiro on the 11th instant, the only object he had in view was to obtain from his Excellency such additional information as appeared to him necessary to enable Her Majesty's Government to form a correct judgment on the value of the proposal now laid before them; and further to observe, that no indication of the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, or of that of the Undersigned, upon the note of M. Cazal Ribeiro can be found in the note of the Undersigned.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 39.

Sir A. Paget to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 1.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, May 25, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a précis, by Mr. Harriss, of the terms in which M. Cazal Ribeiro submitted the Franco-Portuguese Treaty of Commerce for ratification to the Chamber of Deputies, and by which his Excellency explained the principles of the commercial policy which he has marked out for the Portuguese Government—a policy which appears to be based in some respects upon sound economical principles, but in others on less trustworthy doctrines and on expediency. Your Lordship will not fail to observe his Excellency's assertion that the alcoholic test operates as a differential duty of 150 per cent. against Portuguese wines in England.

I have also the honour to inclose an abstract by Mr. Ashburnham of the Tables referred to in the précis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. PAGET.

Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

Précis of M. Cazal Ribeiro's Speech on the Franco-Portuguese Commercial Treaty.

M. CAZAL RIBEIRO considers modern Commercial Treaties to be direct means of facilitating trade between two countries, obtaining in a more or less reciprocal manner advantages for the produce and manufactures of each one. Thus the Franco-Portuguese Treaty inaugurates for Portugal the commercial policy which his Cabinet proposes to follow.

He considers that it is generally recognised that, notwithstanding the partial modifications which have introduced into the Portuguese Tariff since 1862, other and more important alterations should be made. Excessive duties, by too narrowly limiting consumption, restricts the area of taxation and diminishes its produce, whilst, as regards native industry, protective duties when exorbitant lessen the stimulating influences of perfection and cheapness. But the legislator cannot be guided by abstract principles exclusively; he must undertake a certain house reform which should most sensibly jeopardize the mos abundant source of revenue. Neither would it be prudent to withdraw from industries, created under the shadow of protection, all the advantage which they have enjoyed, and thus risk their very existence.

Custom-house reform should tend to increase revenue with advantage to the consumer, and without affecting the national powers of productive, the rather augmenting their vigour by the stimulus of competition, restricted by moderate duties.

M. Ribeiro points out that the effect of Portugal not following the modern commercial policy of making Treaties of a more or less free trade nature would be to more and more shut out foreign markets from the sphere of her operations. In proportion, however, as Portugal facilitates the importation of foreign articles in the interest of the consumer and

Treasury, it is indispensable to obtain for the native producer favourable conditions in foreign markets for the sale of her produce. With these convictions the Government, instead of proceeding by a general law to revise the Tariff, considers it more desirable to obtain by Treaties of Commerce, partial and successively consistent revisions of the Tariff, and also compensations and advantages which shall stimulate Portuguese produce, and thus, on the other hand, increase the national wealth.

M. Ribeiro then quotes instances in foreign Tariffs of large differential duties against Portuguese produce, and adds, that "England, it is true, extended to all countries the Tariff stipulated with France in 1860; but this Tariff is such as regards our wines, that it in reality constitutes against us a differential duty of 150 per cent. To accomplish promptly the reform of our Tariff without using it as a means of removing such inconveniences, would be on the part of the Government an unjustifiable want of foresight."

The Government, according to M. Ribeiro, entered into the negotiations with France after a conscientious study of the industrial and commercial interests of the country, making use for this purpose of the opportunity afforded by the Oporto Exhibition, to which a Commissioner was sent, whose Report, together with a previous Report, and with private information, was duly considered.

The special exportation to France represented from 1862 to 1864, scarcely 200,000*l.* to 240,000*l.*; but if from this amount be deducted the dust and other waste from the manufactures of gold wares, which do not properly constitute an article of native produce or native manufacture, the average value of the export trade to France would only be 140,000*l.*

On their articles of import into France, the Portuguese Government have obtained the treatment which had been previously granted to other nations, and in addition several special reductions. M. Ribeiro expects much in the future from the reductions on marbles, which he thinks with reason ought to form a valuable export, but as yet their quarrying is not in sufficiently favourable circumstances.

On two points the Portuguese proposals were not accepted by France, viz., on salt and on the system of bonding.

By the latter Colonial produce not imported into France direct from the Colony, pay additional duties.

It is clear that, as France had so little to give, a large reform of the Portuguese Tariff could not be granted. "It was necessary to reserve, and we do reserve, more important reductions of duty for other Treaties, when by the nature of the trade we can obtain greater benefit for our produce."

By the annexed Tables it will be seen that the total loss of revenue by the reductions of duty will not, even on the supposition of no increase of consumption exceed 22,222*l.*

M. Ribeiro then notices the stipulations respecting navigation, the usual Treaty stipulations, and the few special clauses, and submits the Treaty to the Chamber for ratification.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

Table showing the aggregate Amount of Duty affected by the Reduced Rates as proposed by the Franco-Portuguese Treaty.

	Deficit.		£
Class II.—Leather	93$090	=	20
„ IV.—Wool	8,660 455	=	1,924
„ V.—Silks	14,150 800	=	3,144
„ VII.—Linen	9,230 825	=	2,051
„ VIII.—Articles of Wood	3,714 300	=	825
„ XII.—Metals	21,787 984	=	4,841
„ XIV.—Wines, &c.	4,640 520	=	1,031
„ XVIII.—Perfumery	3,024 215	=	672
„ XIX.—Miscellaneous	11,811 462	=	2,402
Mixed tissues	14,651 713	=	3,256
Made-up textures	3,768 685	=	838
Total	95,533$969	=	21,004

No. 40.

Mr. Harriss to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 26.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, July 18, 1867.*

WITH reference to the Portuguese counter-proposal of April 9th for a Commercial Treaty, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Excellency a copy of a note to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I deemed it my duty to take this step because it seemed to me of the highest importance that, if Her Majesty's Government should at any time be able to renew the negotiations on the basis of either a 24*d.* or a 20*d.* duty on wines above 26 degrees, such negotiations should not be hampered at the outset by an insistance on the part of Portugal upon a stipulation, which should be equivalent to an obligation on the part of England, to grant within a given period the concession of an equalization of the wine duties. It further seemed to me that, as your Lordship's counter-proposal had been the basis of a 24*d.* duty, without any reference to a subsequent equalization of duties, and assuredly without any obligation so to equalize them, your Lordship might have been inclined to interpret M. Cazal Ribeiro's counter-proposal as one for the basis of a 20*d.* duty with a reference (which appeared desirable to his Excellency) to such subsequent equalization, but certainly without any obligation, so to equalize the duties. In presence of these considerations, and in the absence of sufficiently precise language in the said Portuguese counter-proposal, I trust that your Lordship will approve of my having addressed that note to M. Cazal Ribeiro.

I have also the honour to inclose a copy, together with translation, of his Excellency's reply, which removes any doubt there may have been on the subject. The existence of a Commercial Treaty is as much dependent now on the equalization of the wine duties as it was before Her Majesty's Government felt themselves compelled to refuse to negotiate on such a basis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. HARRISS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 40.

Mr. Harriss to Senhor Ribeiro.

M. le Ministre, *Cintra, July 15, 1867.*

IT will be within your Excellency's recollection that in your note of the 9th of April last, which Sir A. Paget had the honour to receive, you thus stated the basis of the negotiations, relative to the Treaty of Commerce with England, into which Her Most Faithful Majesty's Government were prepared to enter:—

"Que o abaixo assignado não hesita em declarar que se o Governo de Sua Magestade Britannica se prestasse a reduzir desde já a 20*d.* por gallão os direitos de importação para os vinhos entre 26 e 42 gráos, fixando um praso razoavel, findo o qual o direito desceria ao normal de 1*s.* por gallão, o Governo Portuguez pela sua parte concederia desde já á Inglaterra uma parte das reducções que se mostra disposto a fazer, e constam dos documentos que accompanharam a nota de 18 de Janeiro ultimo, reservando a outra parte d'essas reducções para a mesma epoca em que o regimen d'egualdade para todos os vinhos começasse a vigorar em Inglaterra."*

The subsequent equalization of the English duties on wine, of which mention is therein made, was not qualified either by the term "eventual" or by the term "obligatory," so far as I can gather either from that part of the text or from any other paragraph of the note. But it is obvious that such subsequent equalization could only be stipulated as an eventuality or as an obligation. Your Excellency cannot be unaware of the wide difference between the two forms of stipulation.

I should prefer to believe that your Excellency's counter-proposal included such equalization, together with its corresponding advantages which might be stipulated, as an eventuality upon which the existence of the remaining stipulations of the Treaty should not depend. But as the paragraph I have quoted seems to be capable of another

* "The Undersigned does not hesitate to declare that if Her Britannic Majesty's Government would consent to reduce immediately to 20*d.* per gallon the import duties on wines between 26 and 42 degrees, and would fix a reasonable term at the expiration of which the duty would descend to the normal duty of 1*s.* per gallon, the Portuguese Government, on its side, would immediately grant to England a part of the reductions which it showed itself disposed to make, and which are mentioned in the documents which were inclosed in the note of the 18th of January last, reserving the other part of these reductions until the same period, when the rule of equality would begin to be in force in England."

No. 8.

Count Lavradio to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 16.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *London, August* 16, 1866.

ALLOW me to renew in writing the proposal which, by order of my Government, I had the honour of submitting to your Excellency verbally on the 6th instant, namely, that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, being convinced that the Treaty of Commerce concluded on the 3rd of July, 1842, between their Most Faithful and Britannic Majesties, could not satisfy the present just requirements of the commerce of the two respective States, I had been authorized by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to propose to that of Her Britannic Majesty a revision of the aforesaid Treaty, or rather the substitution of a new Treaty upon wider bases, and, as far as possible, more approximating to the principles of free trade.

If the proposal for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce of 1842, or the substitution of another be accepted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I am authorized to declare to your Excellency that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is prepared (in consideration of a just equivalent on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government) to make considerable modifications in the duties paid at the Portuguese Custom Houses on various natural and industrial productions of Great Britain. Inclosed your Excellency will find a statement of the principal British productions upon which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is disposed to modify the importation duties.

The Government of His Most Faithful Majesty is also prepared to abandon the protective system of navigation, and to suppress the differential duties of flag in indirect commerce. It being understood that these two great concessions can only be made in consideration of compensating equivalents on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

This is not the proper occasion to enter into a circumstantial consideration as to what equivalents the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty may think it has a right to propose as an exchange for the concessions it offers; but perhaps it will not be out of place to repeat two observations which I have already had the honour of submitting verbally to your Excellency's judgment, with the necessary explanations.

That as wine is the most important production of Portugal, His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will be liberal in its concessions if Her Britannic Majesty's Government will agree to reduce the duty on wines, and, above all, to substitute for the alcoholic scale, as the basis of that duty, another more just, and, allow me to say, more conformable to the true economical principles and interests of the commerce of the two nations.

What I have just had the honour of stating to your Excellency appears to me sufficient to enable Her Britannic Majesty's Government to decide whether it will accept or not the proposal for a negotiation for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce of 1842, and for the substitution of another in its place. If, however, before deciding, your Excellency should require any explanations, I shall be happy to have the honour of submitting them in writing, or verbally, as your Excellency may determine.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Statement of the Productions upon which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government is disposed to reduce the Importation Duties.

(Translation.)

Horses.

Mules.

Articles, not specified, of morocco or other leathers, including mounting and trimmings, and excepting saddlery.

Unspun wool, dyed.

Tulle and lace of wool, or hair of one or more colours.

Merinoes of one colour.

„ of colours.

Merino shawls of one or more colours.

Lace work and galoons of wool or of pure hair, with a mixture of 10 per cent. or less of silk in the quantity of threads.

Lace work and galoons of wool or of hair, with a mixture of flax, hemp, or cotton.
Woollen textures made up.
Silk, spun and unspun, unbleached, white or (slightly) blued.
Dyed silks.
Sowing silks, unbleached, white, or dyed.
Pure silk textures, plain.
,, ,, worked.
Ribbons of silk, pure or mixed (exclusive of the cards or reels on which they are rolled).
Velvets of silk, pure or mixed.
Plush ,, ,,
Mixed silk textures.
Silk with threads of wool, hair, or others, but the woollen threads or hair threads predominating in quantity over the others (of flax, cotton, &c.), when in the total number of the threads of the texture the number of the threads does not exceed 5 per cent.
Silk with threads of flax, hemp, cotton, or others, the threads of flax, cotton, or hemp predominating over the threads of wool or hair,
Lace work and galoons of silk, pure and mixed.
Silk textures made up.
Lace work and galoons of cotton.
Cotton textures made up.
Threads of flax or hemp, unbleached, white, or coloured.
Textures for sails of any kind, unbleached or white.
Lace work and galoons of flax or hemp.
Textures of flax or hemp made up.
Frames and mouldings in entire squares or in pieces
Wooden furniture fitted up or not.
Wooden goods not specified.
Iron goods not specified.
Works in iron, forged or sheet, in the rough, polished, painted, japanned, &c.
Works in copper, pure or in connection with any other kind, bronzes, &c.
Jewellery, gold and silver work, and plated work.
Tools, instruments, and utensils.
Instruments and utensils of glass, crystal, or earthenware.
Prepared perfumery of any kind.
Riding carriages.
Ladies' hats and head-dresses.
Shoes. Brushes. Umbrellas.
Small wooden articles.
Articles for writing, drawing, and painting.
Card-board. Games of all kinds.
Bird-cages. Artificial flowers.
Salt fish. Porcelain. Fayence ware.
Paper. Chemicals.

No. 9.

Lord Stanley to Count Lavradio.

M. le Ministre, *Foreign Office, August* 21, 1866.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 16th instant, communicating a proposal from your Government for the substitution for the Treaty of July 3, 1842, of a new Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Portugal, upon wider bounds and more in accordance with the principles of free trade; but upon condition of concessions being granted by this country in favour of certain articles of Portuguese produce.

Her Majesty's Government will not fail to give every consideration to the terms of the proposal of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and after consultation with the proper departments I shall lose no time in addressing to your Excellency a further communication upon this important question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

I replied that there was no lack of good-will on the part of your Lordship, and that I, personally, had taken so much interest in the matter that I should be glad to see such a Treaty signed. But there was the formidable question of the spirit revenue, in addition to the minor question of the reduction of the duty on wine. That question remained as great an obstacle to the negotiations as it ever did, so far as my information from England went, unless the Portuguese Government were willing to negotiate on the basis which had been proposed by your Lordship.

His Excellency would not, however, give any indication of any disposition now to adopt such a basis; and, after saying that unforeseen impediments had hindered him from visiting London, where he had hoped to treat this question, he concluded by stating that he was sure of the good-will in this matter of your Lordship, and that he hoped it would so prevail as to make an accomplished fact of the Treaty, which had been so long discussed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. HARRISS.

No. 44.

Mr. Harriss to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 22.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, September* 12, 1867.

I DID myself the honour of calling on M. Casal Ribeiro to-day within the hours allotted by him to the granting of audiences to the Representatives of foreign Powers. His Excellency took this opportunity of saying to me that he believed I had on a former occasion stated to him that I had received instructions or information from England respecting the negotiation, within a brief period, of a Treaty of Commerce between the two countries.

I begged to correct his Excellency's impression. What I had stated was, that I had to the best of my power collected information respecting the incidence of Portuguese duties on British commerce, and that, from a study of their Tariff, combined with his Excellency's assurances as to the desire of the Portuguese Government to effect a liberal reform of it, I had come to the conclusion that a Treaty could within a very brief period be arranged, if a basis of negotiation could be found,—if for instance his Excellency could renounce his wish for an equalization of the wine duties, and would agree to lay down such basis as the English counter-proposal of March last. I could hold out no hope of such an equalization being obtainable, and I did not doubt that his information from London would be confirmatory of my opinion. If the basis were found, the Treaty might be easily ready before the end of the year for presentation to the Cortes, if the reductions of duties which should be proposed by Portugal corresponded to the legitimate and liberal interpretation I had always given to the intentions of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government.

His Excellency replied, that he would be glad to assist at an early conclusion of a Treaty of Commerce, that the question ought to be soon decided, and that such a Treaty would be best ready for presentation in January next to the Cortes. He could not, however, understand the objections to an equalization of the wine duties. He did not dispute the interdependence of the spirit and wine duties. A certain quantity of alcohol could of course be extracted from wine, and this quantity would increase in proportion to the alcoholic strength of the wine. These things were indisputable. But the question was, whether such extraction could take place at a commercial profit in spite of Excise precautions. Surely the English Excise was capable of preventing illicit distillation from ever becoming an operation of commercial profit. The passing of fraudulent wines through the English Custom-house could be prevented; artificial wines could be distinguished from natural wines. He could not, therefore, renounce the idea of an equalization of the wine duties, which equalization really existed formerly.

I pointed out to his Excellency, that the questions connected with the possibility, at a commercial profit, of illicit distillation, were most of them matters of practical detail, on which I could not venture to offer an opinion to his Excellency, but that they had received a solution by practical persons of the competent English Departments, adverse to the wishes of the Portuguese Government. I had heard of such an occurrence as the seizure of a parcel of Hamburgh wines in an English Custom-house, which as it contained spirituous artificial wines, was being fraudulently passed as *bonâ fide* wine, and which was really taxable as mixed spirits; but probably in that and in other instances the true character of the liquid was easily recognizable. In the majority of instances it might not be recognizable. I confessed that I could with difficulty understand how an infallible test

could be found and applied to distinguish real from artificial wines. If it could be foun and applied, no doubt this part of the difficulty would vanish. But I much feared that the Portuguese Government must abandon either the Treaty or the hope of the equalization of the wine duties, for such an equalization in its fulness was a practical impossibility. It was true that at one period such an equalization did exist in England; but the uniform duty of the equalization was no doubt comparatively so high that the spirit revenue could not possibly suffer any prejudice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. P. HARRISS.

No. 45.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received November* 26.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, November* 15, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship translation of a note which I have just received from M. Cazal Ribeiro, expressive of the anxiety of the Portuguese Government to receive, as soon as may be possible, the definitive reply of Her Majesty's Government to the proposals contained in his Excellency's note of the 9th of last April to Sir Augustus Paget, for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, on the basis of admitting into England, under a 1*s.* duty, wines containing 40 degrees of proof spirit.

I have, furthermore, the honour to subjoin copy of my reply to his Excellency's abovementioned note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RT. LYTTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

Senhor Ribeiro to Mr. Lytton.

(Translation.) *Lisbon, November* 12, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, thinks it his duty to call the attention of Mr. E. R. Lytton to the state of the negotiations for a new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Portugal and England, and to solicit a definitive reply to the note which he had the honour to address to Sir A Paget under date of the 9th of April, 1867.

It will be unnecessary to remind Mr. Lytton of the time when these negotiations were commenced, of the manner in which Lord Stanley received the proposal which was made to him in the name of His Majesty's Government by the Count Lavradio, and, in fine, of the several grounds on which the Undersigned thought that the greatest hope might be placed that these negotiations would be brought to a prompt and satisfactory conclusion. Nevertheless, the Undersigned received with great regret and surprise the note of the 14th of March last, wherein Sir A. Paget informed him that Her Britannic Majesty's Government did not accept the proposal for the negotiation of a new Treaty of Commerce between Portugal and England on the terms in which it had been made by the Portuguese Government.

There were two statements which, according to Sir A. Paget's statement, had induced Her Britannic Majesty's Government to reject the proposal of the Portuguese Government:—

1. That the reduction to 1*s.* of the duty on wines containing up to 40 degrees of proof spirit would entail a great sacrifice of British revenue until an increase of consumption should have taken place, which could only be slowly and gradually.

2. That even were the British Government disposed to make this sacrifice, there still remained the question of the effect which the proposed reduction might produce in the revenue derived from the excise duties on spirits, which duties constitute one of the principal items of the English revenue.

These reasons appeared to the Undersigned to be void of any solid foundation, and he thinks that he has proved this in the note which he had the honour to address to Sir A. Paget under date of the 9th of April, 1867. Nevertheless, being desirous of acceding to any transactions which might not be contrary to the national interests, and of giving all proofs of the spirit of conciliation with which he was animated, His Majesty's

Government consented to modify its proposal according to the terms mentioned in the above note of the 9th of April. The arguments adduced in this note by the Undersigned, with the view of removing the objections offered by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, were at a later period reproduced and reinforced before Lord Stanley and Mr. Disraeli by the Count Lavradio, by means of the inquiries and experiments ordered to be made in London by Her Majesty's Government. By these inquiries and experiments it evidently follows :—

1. That the interests of the British Treasury must be held to be sufficiently guaranteed by the restrictive measures now in force against a clandestine distillation from wines, which is not easier than a clandestine distillation from must, from molasses, from sugar, or from cereals.

2. That even if a clandestine distillation from wines were either easy or possible from a fiscal point of view, it is a ruinous and absurd operation, and consequently impossible from an industrial point of view.

Neither Lord Stanley nor Mr. Disraeli attempted to refute the arguments brought forward for the purpose of destroying the objections which were attributed to the Excise and Customs authorities, and they both declared to Count Lavradio that they were animated with the liveliest wish that the negotiations which had been commenced should be shortly and satisfactorily concluded. This statement was the more agreeable to His Majesty's Government, inasmuch as it was difficult to imagine that the realization of the wish thus expressed by the two illustrious members of the English Cabinet could meet with any plausible objections.

The Undersigned has been in daily expectation of receiving the official communication that Her Britannic Majesty's Government were determined to conclude the Treaty upon some of the bases proposed by His Majesty's Government. Nevertheless, many months have elapsed without the Undersigned having received any such communication, or a definitive reply to the note which he addressed on the 9th of April to Sir Augustus Paget. This delay and uncertainty have produced the greatest inquietude to trade, which sees its transactions paralyzed and its credit and interests exposed to serious risks. Several merchants of Oporto have urgently demanded that an end be put to this state of things, by either concluding or breaking off the negotiations.

The day appointed for the opening of the Cortes is drawing near, and it is the strict duty of His Majesty's Government to render them an account of the efforts which it has made with a view to the satisfactory settlement of a question of so much importance. If the publication of the correspondence exchanged up to the present moment between His Most Faithful Majesty's Legation in London and Her Britannic Majesty's Foreign Office, and between the Department under my charge and Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at this Court, must, on the one hand, produce in the public mind of this country the painful conviction that no plausible reasons could be offered against the acceptance by the English Government of the proposal made to them by the Portuguese Government for the conclusion of a new Treaty of Commerce between Portugal and England, it will, on the other hand, be of use to prove that His Majesty's Government has, on its side, done as much as it could and ought to do with a view to improving the relations between the two countries. And at all events His Majesty's Government cannot but decline all responsibility for the losses which may accrue to the wine trade from the paralyzation of its transactions, without any assurance that such losses will be compensated by the advantages which it will derive from the new Treaty on the proposed basis.

Under these circumstances the Undersigned thinks it his duty urgently to request Mr. Lytton to solicit from his Government a definitive reply to the note which he had the honour to address to Sir A. Paget, under date of the 9th of April, 1867.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) CAZAL RIBEIRO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 45.

Mr. Lytton to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, November 15, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, hastens to inform His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs that he had the honour to receive on the 14th instant the note addressed to him by his Excellency, under date of the 12th instant, in which note, after referring to the latest proposals made by the Portuguese Government, and set forth in M. Cazal Ribeiro's note to Sir A. Paget of the 9th of April last, for the negotiation of a Commercial Treaty between Portugal and Great Britain, on

the basis of a reduction to 1*s.* of the English duty on wines containing up to 40 degrees of proof spirit, his Excellency gives expression to the anxiety of the Portuguese Government to receive, as soon as possible, the definitive reply of Her Majesty's Government to the above-mentioned proposals.

Fully sensible of the importance attached by the Portuguese Government to the subject of his Excellency's present communication, the Undersigned begs to assure M. Cazal Ribeiro that he has availed himself of the opportunity afforded by the departure of a private ship, which leaves Lisbon to-morrow, to forward to Her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of this note, which will thus be in the hands of Her Majesty's Government with the least possible delay.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) RT. LYTTON.

No. 46.

Count Lavradio to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 13.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Portuguese Legation, London, December* 12, 1867.

IN obedience to the orders which I have received from the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, I have the honour to address your Excellency with the earnest request that you will, so soon as possible, enable Mr. E. R. Lytton to reply in a definitive manner to the note which his Excellency Senhor José Maria do Casal Ribeiro, His Most Faithful Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, addressed to him on the 12th of November last.

Permit me the honour of recalling to your Excellency the following facts :—

1st. That on the 16th of August, 1866, I had the honour of offering to your Excellency, by order of my Government, the basis for a new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between His Most Faithful Majesty and Her Britannic Majesty.

2nd. That it was not until the 14th of March of the present year (seven months after I had presented my proposal) that Her Britannic Majesty's Government answered, rejecting the basis offered by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and substituting a basis which the latter could not accept.

3rd. That on the 9th of April of the present year (more than eight months ago) His Most Faithful Majesty's Government offered to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty a counter proposal, upon which no resolution has as yet been come to.

I am sure your Excellency will own that I could not avoid mentioning these facts in order to remove from my Government the responsibility for the tardiness with which this negotiation has proceeded, to the manifest injury of the commerce of both nations.

The mercantile community, both Portuguese and English, is aware, from the questions that have been asked in the Portuguese Cortes and in the English Parliament, that a Treaty of Commerce has been in course of negotiation between the Crowns of Portugal and Great Britain, and expecting, as is natural, that some modification may be stipulated therein, in regard to the duties on the importation of Portuguese wines into the British ports, they have suspended all their large transactions, and this suspension has lasted for sixteen months, to the manifest detriment of Portuguese agriculture and commerce, as well as of English commerce. This state of things has occasioned great and reasonable outcries in Portugal, which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government considers itself bound to pay attention to ; and, therefore, at the approaching meeting of the Cortes, in January next, the Government will have to give them an account of the state of the negotiation, presenting them (in case the note addressed to Mr. E. R. Lytton on the 12th November remains without answer) with the correspondence which has passed between the two Governments on the subject.

His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, recognizing the expediency of concluding a new Treaty of Commerce with Her Britannic Majesty's Government, certainly does not wish to break off the negotiations already begun ; but seeing also that it cannot let that negotiation be indefinitely prolonged, without assuming a grave responsibility, it hopes that your Excellency, taking into consideration what I have now had the honour of explaining, will direct that an answer be given through Her Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Lisbon, even before the end of the present month, to the counter proposal which was sent on the 9th of April last by his Excellency Senhor Casal Ribeiro to Sir Augustus Paget, to be submitted to your Excellency.

I am sure your Excellency will take into due consideration the reflections which I have now with the greatest frankness submitted to your judgment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

No. 47.

Lord Stanley to Count Lavradio.

M. le Ministre, *Foreign Office, December* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to state to you, in reply to your note of the 12th instant, that the question regarding the proposal of the Portugese Government in the matter of a Commercial Treaty between this country and Portugal is at present under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and their views on the subject will be communicated to your Government as soon as possible. The questions involved are, however, so important as regards the revenue of this country that Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to give a definitive answer at the present moment.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 48.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Lytton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 28, 1867.

THE proposals which the Portuguese Government have made to Her Majesty's Government regarding the basis of a Commercial Treaty between Portugal and the United Kingdom have necessarily required much consideration with reference both to the extent to which British revenue is concerned in the proposed reduction of the duty on Portuguese wines, and to the desirability of placing the general commerce between the two countries on a more satisfactory footing than the present.

As regards this last point Her Majesty's Government are fully impressed with the importance of securing the advantages which the proposed Treaty would afford in the shape of modifications in the Customs Tariff of Portugal, and it has, therefore, been with great regret that they have arrived at the conclusion, after careful consideration of the whole subject, and consultation with the Revenue Departments, that any reduction in the duty on Portuguese wines beyond the limit suggested in my despatch of this series No. 5 of the 6th of March to Sir A. Paget, would involve an immediate sacrifice of the British revenue derived from the wine duties, and a prospective risk to the revenue derived from spirits, such as Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to incur at the present time, besides tending to unsettle in other important particulars the present fiscal arrangements of the United Kingdom.

You will, therefore, lose no time in acquainting the Portuguese Government that Her Majesty's Government on these grounds regret that they must adhere to the terms which they have already made known to the Portuguese Government as those which they could alone adopt as the basis for the proposed Treaty of Commerce. In doing so you will not fail to express the regret of Her Majesty's Government that a due regard for British interests will not admit of their meeting, as they could have wished to have done, the views of the Portuguese Government; and you will state that they will gladly give their attention to any proposals or suggestions which the Portuguese Government may hereafter think fit to make with a view to place commercial relations between Portugal and the United Kingdom on a more satisfactory footing than the present.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 49.

Lord Stanley to Count Lavradio.

M. le Ministre, *Foreign Office, December* 28, 1867.

WITH reference to my note of the 16th instant I have now the honour to communicate to you the decision at which Her Majesty's Government have arrived as regards the proposals which the Portuguese Government have made in the matter of the Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal; and in doing so I must beg to express to you my regret at the delay which has occurred in arriving at that decision,—a delay which has, however, been rendered necessary not only by reason of the large financial interests

which are involved in the question, but also in consequence of the earnest desire of Her Majesty's Government to meet, as far as may be consistent with British interests, the wishes of the Portuguese Government.

The question depends, as you, M. le Ministre, are well aware, on the proposed reduction in the duties imposed in this country on the importation of Portuguese wines. But whilst Her Majesty's Government continue to be fully impressed with the importance of securing for this country the advantages which the proposed Treaty between the two countries might afford in the shape of modifications in the Portuguese Tariff beneficial to British commerce, it is with great regret that, after careful consideration of the whole subject, and a consultation with the Revenue Departments, they have arrived at the conclusion that an adoption of the proposal make by the Portuguese Government for a reduction of the British duty on wine beyond the limit suggested by Her Majesty's Government in March last, would involve an immediate sacrifice of the revenue derived from wine, and a prospective risk to the revenue derived from spirits, such as Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to incur at the present time, besides tending to unsettle in other important particulars the present fiscal arrangements of the United Kingdom.

Her Majesty's Government feel it, therefore, their duty to adhere to the terms which they have already made known to the Portuguese Government as those which they can alone admit as the basis for the proposed Treaty of Commerce.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 50.

Count Lavradio to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 29.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Portuguese Legation, London, December 29, 1867.*

I HAVE had the honour of receiving the note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 28th instant, informing me that Her Britannic Majesty's Government could not accept as the basis for the negotiation of a new Treaty of Commerce, that offered by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, but only that presented on the 14th of March last by Sir Augustus Paget, in the name of the British Government. As in duty bound I immediately sent information of your Excellency's communication to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, and although I cannot foresee whether His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will assent or not to the renewed proposal of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I can and ought at once to assure your Excellency that if His Most Faithful Majesty's Government should accept that basis, its acceptance will be preceded by a formal declaration that the concessions which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government intended to grant to English commerce will be much inferior to those which it had resolved to grant thereto in case either of the two proposals previously offered to Her Britannic Majesty's Government had been accepted.

Without repeating to your Excellency the many arguments which I have had the honour to submit both verbally and in writing, in support of my Government's proposals, permit me to assure your Excellency that I deeply regret, in the interest of the two nations, that this favourable opportunity for improving the commercial relations between Portugal and Great Britain should be lost.

If the proposal of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government had for its object the extension of the market for the principal product of its soil, to the great advantage of its agriculture, Her Britannic Majesty's Government would have obtained equal advantage for the productions of English industry.

To conclude, the documents relative to the negotiation will, no doubt, be presented to the Cortes of Portugal and to the English Parliament, and the public of the two nations will pronounce their verdict.

I beg your Excellency to excuse these observations, and to accept, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

No. 51.

Mr. Lytton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 4.)

(Extract.) *Lisbon, January* 20, 1868.

YOUR Lordship's despatch dated 28th December, 1867, explaining the inability of Her Majesty's Government to adopt the basis proposed by the Portuguese Government for a Commercial Treaty, reached me on the 2nd of January, 1868. Not being able to see M. Cazal Ribeiro on that day, in consequence of the Ministerial crisis which was then taking place, I informed him of the contents of your Lordship's above-mentioned despach by a private note, dated and sent to his Excellency on the same day that the despatch reached me, viz., 2nd of January. On the 2nd of January I addressed to his Excellency an official note on the subject, copy of which is herewith forwarded to your Lordship.

On the afternoon of that day M. Cazal Ribeiro resigned office.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Mr. Lytton to Senhor Ribeiro.

Lisbon, January 2, 1868.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, has the honour to inform His Most Faithful Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs that the proposals made by the Portuguese Government to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, with a view to their adoption as the basis of a Commercial Treaty between Portugal and the United Kingdom, have received the most serious and friendly attention from Her Majesty's Government, who cannot but be desirous to facilitate, so far as it lies in their power to do so, the realization of the desire expressed by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty to bring the Customs Tariff of Portugal into greater harmony with the more liberal character of that of Great Britain.

These proposals have necessarily demanded careful consideration, with reference both to the extent to which British revenue is concerned in the proposed reduction of the duty on Portuguese wines, and to the desirability of placing the general commerce between the two countries on a more satisfactory footing than the present.

As regards this last point, Her Majesty's Government are fully impressed with the importance of the advantages which the proposed Treaty would afford in the shape of modifications in the Customs Tariff of Portugal; and it has therefore been with great regret that, after consultation with the Revenue Departments, and a most careful consideration of the whole subject, they have arrived at the conclusion that any reduction in the duty on Portuguese wines, beyond the limit suggested to his Excellency by Sir A. Paget on the 14th of March of last year (namely, 2*s.* a-gallon, which is a reduction of the existing duty by one-fifth, and equivalent to one-third of the reduction demanded by Portugal), would involve an immediate sacrifice of the British revenue derived from the wine duties, and a prospective risk to the revenue derived from spirits, such as Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to incur at the present time; besides tending to unsettle, in other important particulars, the present fiscal arrangements of the United Kingdom.

In thus acquainting the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty with the reasons why Her Britannic Majesty's Government are reluctantly compelled to abide by the terms which have already been made known to M. Cazal Ribeiro as the only ones which the Government of Her Britannic Majesty could adopt as the basis for the proposed Treaty of Commerce, the Undersigned is instructed to express the regret of Her Majesty's Government that a due regard for British interests will not admit of their meeting the views of the Portuguese Government as fully and completely as they could have wished to do.

The Undersigned is further authorised to state that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will gladly give their attention to any proposals or suggestions which the Portuguese Government may hereafter think fit to make with a view to place the commercial relations between Portugal and the United Kingdom on a footing more satisfactory than the present.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) RT. LYTTON.

Correspondence respecting Commercial Relations between Great Britain and Portugal: 1866—68.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1867.

[*Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*]

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RIVER PLATE. No. 1. (1868.)

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

HOSTILITIES

IN THE

RIVER PLATE.

In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament in 1867:
"River Plate, No. 2 (1867)."

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
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Correspondence respecting Hostilities in the River Plate

In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament in 1867 : "River Plate, No. 2, (1867)."

No. 1.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 7, 1867.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from Dr. Fox, giving extracts of letters from his son, a medical man, who had engaged himself in the service of President Lopez in Paraguay, and who, the term of his contract having expired, was anxious to leave the country, but was not, in common with other British subjects, allowed to do so; and I have to direct you to take such steps as may be within your power, to obtain facilities for Dr. Fox, and for any other British subjects desiring to leave Paraguay, to quit the country; taking care, however, not to compromise their personal safety by anything which you may do.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 5, 1867.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th ultimo, respecting British subjects in Paraguay, I inclose for your information a copy of a further letter from Dr. Fox; and I have to instruct you to consult with the Admiral as to the expediency of sending a gun-boat up the river, with the concurrence, if it can be obtained, of the officer in command of the blockade, and for the sole object of affording such British subjects as may desire and may be permitted to quit Paraguay, an opportunity of doing so.

If you should agree that the attempt may properly be made, it would be desirable that you should send Mr. Gould in the gun-boat with a letter from you to the Paraguayan Minister, stating that, being given to understand that there were several British subjects in Paraguay who were anxious to leave the country, Her Majesty's Government had directed you to express the hope that no impediment on the part of the authorities of Paraguay would be offered to their doing so, and, to facilitate their departure, have sent up one of Her Majesty's ships of war to receive them on board, and to convey them from the Paraguayan territory.

You will of course be very careful, in executing this instruction, to avoid raising questions with either belligerent which might give rise hereafter to inconvenient discussion.

The attention of the Chargé d'Affaires of Paraguay in this country has been called to this detention of British subjects against their will, and he will doubtless communicate to his Government by the present mail the dissatisfaction which its proceedings in this respect are calculated to produce in this country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 3.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received August* 5.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, June* 23, 1867.

I HAVE made such inquiries as it was in my power to make in this town, respecting Mr. Fox, whose detention in Paraguay forms the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th May, but I have been unable to obtain any information respecting him.

I propose to avail myself of the first opportunity of the transmission of despatches, under a flag of truce, to Mr. Washburn, the United States' Minister, to thank him for the aid Mr. Fox states him to have given to Her Majesty's subjects, and to request his further protection to that gentleman.

But it would be impossible for me, under present circumstances, to take any direct steps for the protection of Her Majesty's subjects in Paraguay, and (as Mr. Fox admits) highly dangerous to their safety; the moment, however, the navigation of the river is open, I shall apply to Admiral Ramsay to send up a gunboat to Asuncion for that object.

I trust the Admiral's general instructions will insure his compliance with my request.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 4.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 2.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, July* 26, 1867.

THE resignation of Don Marcos Paz, as Vice-President of this Republic, not having been accepted by Congress, General Mitre made over to him the administration of the Government on the 17th instant, and embarked on the 22nd to resume the command of the allied forces in Paraguay.

The latest accounts from thence announce that General Osorio had joined the Brazilian army with about 5,000 men, and that the Marquis de Caxias had made an important advance, attended by some fighting on his right flank, abandoning his former lines, and leaving the Baron de Monte Alegre with 8,000 men at Tuyuti. This step is said to have been decided upon by the knowledge acquired through the use of a balloon, recently brought with competent persons from the United States. The chief engineers of the army are stated to have made several ascents, as high as ropes would permit.

It is evident that a general and combined attack by the allied forces is at hand, but it is supposed that the Marquis de Caxias would probably await the arrival of General Mitre. If the latest reports are correct, President Lopez is withdrawing his heaviest guns to the fortress of Humaita, in the expectation, possibly in the hope, that the allies will besiege him there instead of pushing on their forces to Asuncion, and of leaving an entrenched corps above, and their fleet below, to watch him.

I can scarcely imagine, however, that their dearly-bought experience of the last two years has been so thrown away, as the adoption of such a course of action would prove it to be; and I cannot but hope, that in the event of defeat, President Lopez will see the wickedness of exposing the country and the people he has governed to a continuance of the miseries of war, in a hopeless contest.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 5.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 2.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, July* 27, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, with respect to the detention of British subjects in Paraguay.

The difficulty attendant upon any effectual steps for their relief was, as your

Lordship will be aware, of a complicated nature; for in addition to any impediments that might arise from the actual operations of the allied forces, and from torpedoes and other obstructions in the river above Curupaity, the letters of some of the persons who have been compelled to serve in a military capacity express most strongly the fear of the writers that any demand upon President Lopez for their liberation, unsupported by the presence of one of Her Majesty's ships, would place their lives in jeopardy.

Your Lordship will, however, have gathered from my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, that I was prepared to avail myself of the first favourable contingency to take some measures in their behalf; and having had reason to believe that the obstacles to free navigation had been swept away by the extraordinary rise of the water and increased current in the river, and, on the other hand, that a decisive action was imminent, I communicated my wish to send a gun-boat to Paraguay, to Admiral Ramsay and to Mr. Thornton, in Rio, whose assistance in obtaining the ready assent of the Brazilian Government I beg leave to acknowledge.

Your Lordship's despatch having at this juncture reached me, I made immediate arrangements for carrying out your Lordship's instructions. Mr. Gould sailed yesterday in Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel," which Admiral Ramsay had placed at my disposal for this service, and I entertain a sanguine hope that his presence, at a moment of evident danger to Her Majesty's subjects in Paraguay, will ensure them efficient protection and relief.

I beg leave to inclose a copy of my instructions to Mr. Gould, who had been absent for a few days at Rosario, but who returned yesterday morning in time to converse fully with me on the subject of his mission. Your Lordship will perceive that this Government (as well as that of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Brazil) have offered every facility for the passage of the "Doterel."

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Mr. Mathew to Mr. Gould.

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, July* 24, 1867.

IN consequence of representations from British subjects in Paraguay to Her Majesty's Government, through their relatives at home, Lord Stanley has instructed me to send you in one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to that Republic, with a letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that Her Majesty's Government, having understood that several British subjects there were desirous of leaving the country, have directed me to express their hope that no impediment would be offered by the authorities to their doing so; and, to facilitate their departure, have sent up one of Her Majesty's ships of war to receive them on board and to convey them from the Paraguayan territory.

Lord Stanley particularly enjoins me, in carrying out these instructions, to avoid raising questions with either belligerent which might give rise hereafter to inconvenient discussions.

The attention of the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires in England has, his Lordship informs me, been called to the alleged detention of British subjects against their will, and he will doubtless, should he have any facilities of communication, have made known to his Government the dissatisfaction which such proceedings would be calculated to produce in England.

The "Doterel," Lieutenant-Commander Michell, has been placed at my disposal by Admiral Ramsay for this service, and, in consequence of your momentary absence on leave, proceeds to take you up at Rosario. I certainly should have much wished to have been enabled to converse with you personally on the subject of your Mission, but you are so fully acquainted with the peculiar position of affairs in Paraguay, and so well aware of the great care that may be necessary to avoid endangering even the lives of any British subjects who may, as asserted, have been compelled to perform military service against their will, and in violation of Her Majesty's Proclamation, that I feel I can leave the matter wholly in your hands.

I have received from the Government of this Republic, and from M. de Britto on behalf of the Brazilian Government, the assurance that every facility compatible with the military operations of the moment will be afforded for the passage of the "Doterel" through the blockade, or for your landing and passing (under your flag of truce) to the

Paraguayan camp; and I inclose a despatch to the above effect addressed to his Excellency General Mitre from the Vice-President administering the Government.

The present position of affairs on the frontiers of Paraguay, where, I am informed, a decisive action is imminent, would lead me to defer your Mission were it not obvious that this would be the time of more especial danger to British subjects, and when the presence of Her Majesty's ship at Asuncion would be of the greatest utility.

Your object being to obtain the release of any British subjects in the Paraguayan camp, as well as to afford to those in the interior of the country the means of quitting it, I conclude that, if matters are unchanged on your arrival at Curupaity, your first step will be to inform the Paraguayan Commander, by a flag of truce, that you are the bearer of a letter from me to be delivered personally to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who may be in the camp.

You will be guided by subsequent circumstances in asking for an unmolested passage for the "Doterel" to Asuncion as soon as you can ascertain with certainty that all the impediments to navigation, stated to have been placed in the river, are removed.

You may find it difficult to carry any considerable number of passengers in the "Doterel," but, unless in very exceptional cases, it seems merely necessary to convey them to Corrientes or to the nearest port whence they can obtain steam conveyance to this city. Among British subjects in Paraguay I may recall to your recollection the names of Messrs. Valpy, Burrell, Fox, and Rhind, said to be in the camp, and the widow and children of Mr. Grant, a civil engineer at Asuncion.

No. 6.

Mr, Lettsom to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord, *Monte Video, July* 29, 1867.

I HAVE again to convey to your Lordship the information that the Allies, during the present month, have undertaken no operations of material importance in their war against Paraguay.

The iron-clads and the transports having, from the beginning of the contest, done but little, and the land forces not very much more, recourse has of late been had by the Brazilians to the assistance of an æronaut from the United States of the name of Allen.

From the correspondence published in the papers, it seems Mr. Allen, by means of three or four ascents that he has made, has ascertained that the forces of the Paraguayans do not exceed 15,000 men.

Should this be the fact, one does not very well see why the allies continue to defer making an attack upon them.

The general impression here, however, is that a formal and combined attack upon the Paraguayans will be made very shortly but opinions differ materially as to the probable results thereof.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

No. 7.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 14, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of July last respecting the movements of the allied forces, and mentioning the circumstance of a balloon having been used for purposes of observation; and I have to direct you to procure all the information in your power respecting this balloon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 8.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 20.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, August* 12, 1867.

GENERAL MITRE, whose departure to resume the command of the allied forces in Paraguay I had the honour of communicating to your Lordship in my despatch of the 26th ultimo, arrived at their encampment on the 31st.

The army under the Marquis de Caxias had made a successful, though trying, flank movement through the Esteros, or salt-water marshes, and (as shown in the small annexed diagram) had completely turned the Paraguayan lines, forcing them to retreat behind the defences of Humaita.

General Mitre's head-quarters were, by the latest accounts, near San Solano, about a league and a-half to the eastward of that fortress, and General Osorio had penetrated as far as Villa del Pilar, which it is intended to occupy, on the Paraguay.

The Brazilian fleet has not moved, and Humaita can be supplied from the river, but if the iron-clads force their passage up, or if an adequate battery is established at Pilar, commanding the stream, the investment of Humaita, which appears to be General Mitre's present aim, will be complete.

So little is known with any certainty of the number of the Paraguayan forces, and of the resources yet possessed by President Lopez, that it is difficult to form an opinion of the probable result of that plan. I am inclined to believe the latter must be almost exhausted, but still it seems clear that the rapid advance of a part of the allied forces, supplied by their fleet, upon Asuncion, which was defenceless, and the creation of a new Government there, would have been more likely to end the contest, which may now merge into a long guerilla war.

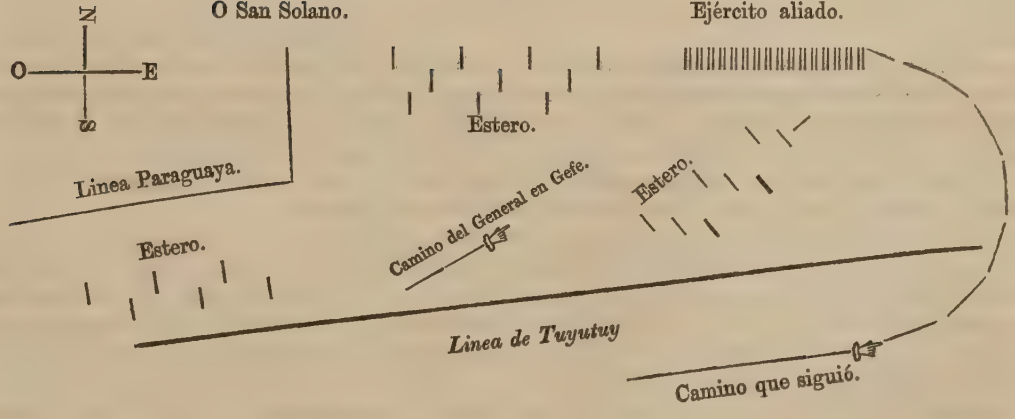
I have not yet received news of the arrival of the "Doterel."

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Diagram.



No. 9.

Mr. Lettsom to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 3.)

(Extract.) *Monte Video, August* 28, 1867.

THE inactivity of the allies in their proceedings against Paraguay has been departed from this month, a movement of their army towards Humaita having been made by land, and a portion of the Brazilian squadron having proceeded up the river also in the direction of that fort.

Four or five of the Brazilian iron-clads have, indeed, bombarded Humaita, from a considerable distance, for some days.

This movement of the army and of the squadron has not, however, hitherto, as far as I can ascertain, led to any material change in the condition of the belligerents.

No. 10.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, August 27, 1867.*

THE Allies, I understand, remain in the same position near Tuyucué and San Solano, in Paraguay, but the iron-clad ships of the Brazilian fleet have passed the batteries of Curupaity with very little loss, and were at the last accounts exchanging shots at a long range with the guns of Humaita.

Since I had the honour of addressing your Lordship, I have received despatches from Mr. Gould, announcing his arrival in the "Doterel" at Itapiru, and his immediate subsequent proceedings.

He had visited the camp of General Mitre and the Marquis de Caxias, at some personal risk I regret to learn, and on his return to Curupaity, had forwarded a letter, under a flag of truce, to President Lopez:

By a subsequent hurried private note, I am informed that he landed on the 19th from the "Doterel" at Curuzu, the river being, as yet, impassable beyond that point, and was received by an aide-de-camp of President Lopez, with a mounted escort.

Lieutenant Michell writes to me on the 22nd that he had dropped down to Corrientes to coal, having arranged with the Brazilian Commanders for the necessary signals on Mr. Gould's return, when he would immediately proceed to meet him, and to receive him on board.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 11.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 20.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, September 12, 1867.*

ACCOUNTS have been received of the state of affairs in Paraguay up to the 5th instant, but I have received as yet no news from Mr. Gould, who landed, as I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship, on the 19th ultimo at Curuzu, to visit President Lopez.

I conclude that he has proceeded to Asuncion to ascertain the position of Her Majesty's subjects there, and that his silence is thus explained.

The allied army has not made any movement in advance, and the iron-clad vessels continue the distant bombardment of Humaita, but have not, it appears, made any serious efforts to force their passage past the many obstacles by which the channel is known to be obstructed within the range of the guns of the fortress. Meanwhile, the Paraguayans, who have re-occupied Curupaity after the departure of the Brazilian troops, are restoring their batteries upon the river there, and the fleets will probably find it as perilous to retrace their steps as to move up the river, should circumstances oblige them to make the attempt.

The iron-clads are at present in receipt of all needful supplies through the district called the "Chaco," a wilderness on the opposite bank of the river, within the Argentine boundaries, where a road has been made for the purpose.

I find that General Mitre's present intention is to cut off his enemies from their supplies, and thus to force their surrender. With this aim he is carrying out an entrenched line from the marshes near the Parana, which he proposes to extend to the banks of the Paraguay, with fortifications at equi-distant points, where a couple of thousand men may successfully defend themselves until succoured in case of attack.

The restoration of peace in the provinces may enable him to receive reinforcements of about 2,000 men, and he counts on getting additional troops from Brazil, but it is at all events obvious that by this plan the war may be prolonged for some months.

No. 12.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 18.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, October 10, 1867.*

THE "Doterel" arrived from Paraguay on the 28th ultimo, but Mr. Gould did not reach this city until the 2nd instant, having left her when aground in the river, and having accepted the offer of a passage in a Brazilian transport to Montevideo, in the mistaken hope of making a quicker voyage down.

I regret deeply to have to report to your Lordship the complete failure of Mr. Gould's earnest and repeated endeavours to obtain permission for Her Majesty's subjects in Paraguay to leave that country.

President Lopez refused even to allow the five individuals now detained against their desire in his camp to retire to Asuncion, and the sole concession he made, if it can be called such, was in the embarkation on board the "Doterel" of three English widows, with their children, most of whom were, I believe, a charge upon his Government.

I will not occupy your Lordship's time by an unnecessary recapitulation of Mr. Gould's proceedings on this question, as they are minutely detailed in his correspondence, which I have the honour to transmit herewith.

The statements in the notes of President Lopez, written by his private secretary, Señor Caminos, cannot but create an unfavourable impression and give weight to the fears Mr. Gould expresses for the safety of the British subjects. It may not be irrelevant to observe that the "contracts," to which frequent reference is made in the notes exchanged, had not only, in most cases, expired, but were made for peaceful occupations, and were never intended to place the contracted under fire, and to thus force them into the position of violating Her Majesty's proclamation. I believe that more than one English engineer engaged for river steamers in Paraguay has been killed during this war.

President Lopez assuredly has no cause to complain of want of the utmost deference and attention in the notes of Mr. Gould, who possibly went to the extreme in his desire to give no pretext for offence on that score.

With the exception of his first despatches (copies of which, as well as of my reply of the 15th August, I beg leave to inclose, with the view of placing the entire matter, to the date of Mr. Gould's return, in your Lordship's hands), Mr. Gould appears to have had no safe means of forwarding his communications to me, and therefore brought them down himself.

Although he has been unsuccessful in his endeavours, I cannot but bring to your Lordship's notice the energy and perseverance he has evinced on a Mission which apparently exposed him to some personal danger when visiting the allied camp, and I entertain the hope that he may have merited your Lordship's approbation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *"Doterel," River Parana, August 2, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, in obedience to the instructions you delivered to me personally, I embarked the same day (July 26) on board this gunboat; but I regret to state that, owing to her heavy draught of water and small steam-power, which render her unfit for the navigation of this river, I will, under the most favourable circumstances, not be able to reach the seat of war much before the middle of this month.

Considering it to be a matter of the highest importance that I should arrive at my destination as soon as possible, I have taken upon myself to to request Lieutenant-Commander Michell to proceed with the utmost dispatch consistent with the safety of Her Majesty's vessel under his orders.

There are one or two important points in your instructions to me to which I will venture to draw your attention.

You are aware that more than two years ago, at the commencement of the present war, torpedoes and other obstacles to navigation were laid down in the River Paraguay,

near the fortresses of Curupaity and Humaitá, some of which have been fished up by the Brazilian naval forces in different parts of that river far below the positions in which they were originally placed by the troops of President Lopez. I apprehend, therefore, that it cannot be your present intention that Her Majesty's gunboat should attempt to ascend the River Paraguay, unless the Brazilian fleet has previously forced its passage beyond the two before-mentioned fortresses, although you are of opinion that, as a decisive action is imminent, "this would be the time of more especial danger to British subjects, and when the presence of Her Majesty's ship at Asuncion would be of the greatest utility," otherwise it will be impossible for me "to ascertain, with certainty, that all the impediments to navigation have been removed," whatever assurances I may receive on the subject from the commanders of the Paraguayan forces.

You further instruct me, first, "to obtain the release of any British subjects in the Paraguayan camp;" and, secondly, "to afford those who may be in the interior of the country the means of leaving it." I feel it my duty not to conceal from you that to carry the first point will probably be a matter of the greatest difficulty, as President Lopez will be most unwilling to release the British subjects alleged to be detained in his camp, for they are all engineers or medical men, whose services are indispensable to him, and whom he cannot possibly replace at the present moment.

With regard to the second object in view, I beg to observe that, unless Her Majesty's gunboat ascends the River Paraguay, I will be deprived of the only available means of facilitating the departure of those British subjects resident in the interior of the country why may be desirous of leaving it.

Moreover, I find from the despatch you have addressed, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, to the Paraguayan Minister for Foreign Affairs on this subject that, in it, his Excellency is merely informed that I am charged with the honour of placing it in his hands, and I fear he may, therefore, be led to infer that he is at liberty to refuse to entertain any representations I may have to make, or to allow me to take measures for the protection or removal of the British subjects in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *"Doterel," Itapirú, August* 13, 1867.

OWING to the praiseworthy exertions of Lieutenant Commander Michell, the officers, and crew of Her Majesty's gun-boat, I succeeded in reaching this port on the 11th instant, and proceeded the same day with Commander Michell to the head-quarters of the 2nd Brazilian Army Corps at Tuyuti.

General Viscount Porto Alegre, the Commander of this Corps, received us with the most marked courtesy, and kindly communicated at once to the Brazilian Commander-in-chief, Field-Marshal the Marquis of Caxias, our arrival at this port, and our desire to be allowed to proceed without loss of time to the head-quarters of the allied army at Tuyucuè. I took the opportunity of addressing at the same time a note to his Excellency President Mitre, as Commander-in-chief of the allied army, requesting the honour of an interview for the purpose of presenting the despatch, addressed to his Excellency by the Government of the Republic, with which I am charged.

I have received this day President Mitre's answer to my communication, which I beg herewith to inclose, and, in consequence, I intend to avail myself of the escort obligingly placed at my disposal by General Viscount Porto Alegre, and, in company with Commander Michell, to proceed to-morrow morning to Tuyucué, although as you will learn from the inclosure, his Excellency the President, has had the extreme kindness to warn me that the journey is attended with some risk.

With the exception of occasional attacks by the Paraguayan forces on the Brazilian lines of communication, one of which, on the 11th instant, was rather serious, no change of any importance has occurred in the positions of the contending armies since the advance of the allies to Tuyucué.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12.

President Mitre to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.) *Head-Quarters, Tuyucué, August* 12, 1867.

I HAVE received the note addressed to me by Mr. Secretary, under yesterday's date, announcing his arrival at the encampment of Tuyuti, with despatches to my address, and requesting me to give him the means of coming to head-quarters to effect personally the delivery of said despatches.

I shall have much pleasure in receiving Mr. Secretary and the communications of which he is the bearer, and, in accordance with his wishes, I have ordered the means of transport to be put at his disposal ; notwithstanding, should he wish to avoid a long and somewhat dangerous road, he can deliver the communications that are addressed to me to his Excellency Viscount Porto Alegre.

(Signed) BORTOLOME MITRE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 12.

Mr. Mathew to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, August* 15, 1867.

I HAVE to acknowledge your despatch of the 2nd instant, which reached me yesterday.

In reply to a private note from you previously received, I have already written to authorise you to substitute for the words, "with certainty, &c." in your instructions, these, "On reliable information that no insuperable impediments exist to her proceeding up the river with perfect safety."

I did not feel myself authorised to give you an appointment as Chargé d'Affaires, but I inclose to you a despatch addressed to the Paraguayan Minister, which you can substitute for the one already given to you, in which I have explained more fully and in detail the duties with which Her Majesty's Government have charged you.

I trust this will facilitate your mission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure 5 in No. 12.

Mr. Mathew to Señor Berges.

Buenos Ayres, July 24, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, has the ho nour addressing his Excellency Don Josè Bergés, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay, for the purpose of requesting he will be pleased to communicate to his Excellency the President, that Her Majesty's Government, having understood that several British subjects were desirous of leaving Paraguay, have instructed him to express their hope, that no impediment on the part of the Paraguayan authorities, will be offered to their doing so, and have directed, in order to facilitate their departure, that one of Her Majesty's ships of war should proceed up the river to receive them on board, and to convey them from the Paraguayan territory.

Mr. Gould, Secretary of Her Majesty's Legation, has been specially charged by Her Majesty's Government, with the duties attendant on this service : he will have the honour of placing this communication in his Excellency's hands, and of making such arrangements with his Excellency for the passage of the "Doterel" to Asuncion, and for carrying out the friendly objects of his mission, as may be found necessary.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure 6 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, "*Doterel*," *Itapirú, August* 15, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, kindly authorising me to make certain slight modifications in my instructions, in the sense which I ventured to suggest to you in my despatch of the 2nd instant.

Yesterday morning, in company with Commander Michell, I proceeded under a strong escort from Itapiru, viâ Tuyuti, to the head-quarters of the allied army at Tuyucué, a distance of about 12 miles. His Excellency President Mitre, who commands in person the advanced guard, received us most cordially, and on making himself acquainted with the contents of the despatch from his Government, of which I was the bearer, stated, that he would be happy to further—as far as lay in his power—the views of Her Majesty's Government, as regards the mission entrusted to me. He not only at once caused a despatch in that sense to be addressed under flying seal, to the Brazilian Commander-in-chief, which he desired me to take charge of, but graciously determined upon riding with me to the Marquis' head-quarters, where I met with an equally flattering reception.

At the interview which ensued, it was agreed, that the Marquis de Caxias should give me a despatch to General Viscount Porto Alegre, authorising his Excellency to forward under a flag of truce any communication I might desire to make to President Lopez. The Field Marshal also gave me a second despatch for Admiral Ignacio, instructing him to allow the "Doterel" to pass at any moment, when her passage would not actually impede the operations of the squadron under his orders.

As it was out of the question to attempt to return to Itapiru that evening, Commander Michell and I gladly accepted the Marquis of Caxias' kind hospitality for the the night, President Mitre considering his own quarters to be too much exposed to the enemy's fire.

At an early hour this morning we returned under escort to Tuyuti, from whence, owing to the extreme kindness of General Viscount Porto Alegre, I was enabled to forward this evening, by a flag of truce to President Lopez, the note, copy of which is herewith inclosed for your information.

This morning, after a short eugagement, the Brazilian iron-clad squadron under the command of Admiral Ignacio, succeeded in passing the strongly fortified position of Curupaity, and is now, I am told, in close proximity to the fortress of Humaita, while the squadron of wooden vessels maintains its former position below Curupaity. No reliable particulars respecting this engagement, have as yet, to my knowledge, been received, owing to the extreme difficulty of communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 7 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to President Lopez.

"*Doterel*," *Itapirú, August* 15, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Secretary of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Republic of Paraguay and the Argentine Confederation, has the honour to inform his Excellency Field-Marshal President Lopez, that he has arrived on board the above-named vessel of Her Majesty's navy, and that he is charged by Her Majesty's Government with a special Mission to the Government of the Republic of Paraguay. He has, therefore, the honour to request his Excellency in the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to allow him, and Her Majesty's vessel "Doterel" to pass into the territory of the Republic of Paraguay, through the lines of defence established by the army under his Excellency's orders; and he has to add, that the Commanders of the allied forces, acting in compliance with the orders of their respective Governments, have given him positive assurances, that no impediment will be offered by the forces under their command to his passage, and that of Her Majesty's vessel, through the positions they at present hold.

At the same time he takes this opportunity of informing his Excellency that he has the honour to be the bearer of despatches from the Governments of France and the United States to their respective Agents in the Republic of Paraguay.

He feels confident his Excellency will have the goodness to acquaint him at his

earliest possible convenience, with the decision he may have been pleased to come to, as to the best means of meeting the wishes of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the passage of Her Majesty's vessel "Doterel," and of placing the Undersigned in direct communication with his Excellency's Government.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 8 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Cumpaiti, August* 18, 1867.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ'S reply to my note of the 15th instant (inclosed in my despatch of the 15th instant), only reached me late yesterday evening, while on a visit to General Viscount Porto Alegre's head-quarters at Tuyuti, and I have the honour to forward it herewith to you in original and translation.

Without loss of time I hastened back to Itapiru, and at sunrise this morning I was on my way to Curuzu in Her Majesty's gunboat "Doterel." At the Tres Bocas and further up the Paraguay, Her Majesty's gunboat was twice directed to stop by the Brazilian men-of-war engaged in maintaining the blockade of that river.

By inadvertence the order for her passage through the blockading squadron had not yet been received by the commanders of those vessels; after a very slight detention however, she was permitted to proceed, on my assuring them that I had already obtained the assent of the General-in-chief of the allied forces, although, according to what I believe to be the practice, when a vessel of war of a neutral Power, desires to enter a blockaded river or port, they would have been fully justified in detaining Her Majesty's gunboat, until they had communicated with the naval Commander-in-chief.

On arriving at Curuzu, I requested Lieutenant and Commander Michell to anchor astern of the Brazilian Admiral's ship where the "Doterel" would be beyond range of the Paraguayan shells, and out of the line of fire of the fleet.

The Admiral received Lieutenant Commander Michell and myself most courteously; but objected to hoist a flag of truce, as he was then actively engaged in bombarding the Paraguayan positions at Curupaity. It was therefore agreed, that, as soon as Her Majesty's gunboat got under weigh, he would hoist the British flag and then signal to the fleet to cease firing, which would not be resumed until the "Doterel's" return to the position she actually occupied, after having landed me at Curupaity, where according to the terms of President Lopez's letter an officer would be in attendance the whole day to pilot Her Majesty's gunboat to a spot where she might safely anchor.

Owing to the information I had previously received during my interview with the Allied Generals as to the obstacles to navigation to be met with between Curupaity and Humaitá, and the tenor of the reply to the request I addressed to President Lopez that Her Majesty's gunboat should be allowed to proceed to Asuncion, I had been reluctantly compelled to give up all hope of carrying out that part of your instructions which referred to the protection to British subjects, which the presence of Her Majesty's vessel at Asuncion would have undoubtedly afforded them at the present crisis.

In consequence of the above arrangement, as soon as the "Doterel" got under weigh, the Brazilian fleet ceased firing, and she steamed past with the British ensign flying at the peak, as, not belonging to a belligerent power, she had no occasion to hoist a flag of truce.

I landed this evening with Lieutenant and Commander Michell at the appointed spot, and requested him to return with all possible speed to the anchorage he occupied in the rear of the Brazilian fleet, and there he is to wait three full days, as, although I considered it would have been far better that Her Majesty's vessel should remain in sight, and be at hand in case of any sudden emergency, he has objected to remain beyond that time, unless I should make a written request to that effect, on the ground that the river Paraguay is very unhealthy, and that he might find it difficult to obtain fresh provisions for the crew. At the end of the above time the "Doterel" will therefore return to Corrientes, and on the British flag being hoisted at Curupaity, the Brazilian Admiral has kindly promised to send a despatch boat to Corrientes for Her Majesty's gunboat.

I cannot conclude without requesting you to call the particular attention of Her Majesty's Government to the great readiness shown by the Commanders of the allied forces to further by every means in their power the wishes of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the successful termination of the mission entrusted to me, and moreover I feel especially grateful to Field-Marshal Caxias, and the officers under his orders for

the extreme kindness and condescension with which on every occasion both Lieutenant Commander Michell and myself have been treated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 9 in No. 12.

Señor Caminos to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.) *Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, August* 17, 1867.

THE Undersigned has received orders from his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic, to acknowledge receipt of the communication that you addressed him from Itaparu, dated the 15th instant, on board Her Majesty's gunboat "Doterel," in the which you advise having been charged by Her Majesty's Government with a special mission to the Government of this Republic, and request permission to pass with Her Majesty's gunboat into the territories of the Republic, through the lines of defence established by the army; adding, that the commanders of the allied forces, in accordance with orders received from their respective Governments, have given positive assurances that no impediment will be offered to you, or to Her Majesty's gunboat, by the forces under their command, in the position they now hold.

His Excellency orders me to inform you that, notwithstanding his wishes to consent to Her Majesty's gunboat "Doterel" going up as far as the capital of the Republic, the present state of the navigation of the river, owing to the military operations of the allies, will render it difficult; but his Excellency, always desirous to give proofs of friendship and deference to the neutral Powers, will have the satisfaction of offering to you the greatest facilities to carry out the mission with which Her Majesty's Government has charged you, and that Her Majesty's gunboat "Doterel" may navigate the waters of the Republic as far as may be deemed safe. This point his Excellency considers limited to Curuzu, a little further in advance of the first line of the enemy's fleet, where, to-morrow and the day after, from eight o'clock in the morning until sundown, you will find an officer of the national fleet, who will pilot the "Doterel," and conduct you with safety to the positions occupied by the forces under his command.

As to the correspondence addressed to the Agents of the French and American Governments, the Undersigned will undertake to forward them to their respective addresses, should it suit your convenience.

I avail myself of the opportunity to salute you with the greatest consideration.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) LUIS CAMINOS.

Inclosure 10 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

(Extract.) *Paraguayan Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, August* 22, 1867.

THE very evening of my arrival (the 18th instant) I was informed by the President's Secretary that his Excellency would receive me privately, and I had therefore the honour of spending a couple of hours with the President, who assumed towards me an extremely frank and cordial manner.

After reminding me that this was not an official interview, and inquiring the object of my visit to his camp, his Excellency said he deeply regretted that I should have been charged with such a mission, as he could not, under the circumstances, possibly dispense with the services of the British subjects in Paraguay, who were all in his employment and bound by contracts. His Excellency moreover added that he could not allow any foreigners at the present crisis to quit the country, or even return from the camp to the capital. Should permission to leave be granted to one, his Excellency observed, the rest would, in all probability, wish to follow. He had, therefore, been obliged to refuse a private and most pressing appeal, which Mr. Washburn, the United States' Minister at Asuncion, had addressed to him in behalf of an American citizen.

Mr. Berges, his Minister for Foreign Affairs, had in consequence only recently notified publicly that no foreigner would, in the actual critical state of affairs, be permitted to withdraw from the Republic. His Excellency dwelt at considerable length on the partiality, which he had at all times shown for Englishmen, whom he had

exclusively employed, on the great benefits he had confered on some of them, and the special protection he had extended to all, although Her Majesty's Government had failed to send either a Consular or Diplomatic Agent to watch over their interests. His Excellency further assured me none of them had the slightest cause of complaint; on the contrary, they were one and all perfectly happy and contented, None of them, to his knowledge, desired to leave the country, and all had engagements, which they were gladly fulfilling to his entire satisfaction. I should have every opportunity afforded me of conversing with the few British subjects in his camp, who would fully corroborate what he had asserted.

His Excellency proceeded to complain of the want of sympathy evinced by Her Majesty's Government towards Paraguay; of his desire to cultivate more friendly and intimate relations with Great Britain not having been reciprocated; of the way in which his policy had been misconstrued in England; and, finally, of the breaches of neutrality committed by Her Majesty's Government during the present war. He had, unfortunately, no one to advocate his cause, and he was shut out from the rest of the world. He considered it very unfair on the part of Her Majesty's Government to call upon him to give up the small number of British subjects, who had freely entered his service, while no notice seemed to be taken of the loans, ships, and arms obtained by his adversaries in Great Britain, and of the hundreds of Englishmen fighting against him in their ranks.

With regard to the despatch addressed by you to his Minister for Foreign Affairs, his Excellency stated he could not be expected to take any official notice of it as you have not yet presented your letters of credence, which can only be done personally. He, therefore, considered he would have been fully justified in refusing to listen to any request I might be instructed to make on behalf of the British subjects in Paraguay, as I was unprovided with any direct communication from Her Majesty's Government to that of the Republic.

Nevertheless, to prove his anxious desire to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government, he would overlook these diplomatic informalities, and endeavour to make some exceptional concession in its favour without prejudicing his position, which had become exceedingly delicate with regard to other neutral Powers, since the publication of the notification he had previously alluded to.

His Excellency concluded by making some highly flattering remarks about me, and saying that such was the sympathy he felt for me that out of personal regard he would wish to see my Mission brought to a successful termination.

I began by endeavouring to convince the President that the object of my Mission was not to complain of the treatment of the British subjects in the Republic, but simply to request his Excellency to allow those among them who might desire to leave Paraguay to avail themselves of the facilities for doing so placed at their disposal by Her Majesty's Government. I added that this friendly request was based on a positive international right, and that a refusal on his part to comply with it would be not only highly impolitic but inhuman. If these British subjects were all, as he asserted, happy and contented, the number of those wishing to leave would be so insignificant as to cause his Government no embarrassment, while he would thus, by a very slight sacrifice, gain over to his side not only Her Majesty's Government, but public opinion in the United Kingdom, which had become interested in their fate. The arrival of Her Majesty's gun-boat in the Paraguayan waters had placed my countrymen in an exceptional position, and rendered the notification he had referred to inapplicable to them. I would not take upon myself to call in question his Excellency's assertions, but I had good reason to believe that the contracts of most of the Englishmen in his service had long since expired, and that some at least of them were anxious to return to their homes. I would not, however, attempt to ascertain their real feelings on the subject until his Excellency had consented to their departure. I should, by doing so, merely place them in a false and painful position.

I concluded by assuring his Excellency that I would, through you, call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the various causes of complaint he had considered himself justified in pointing out to me. I moreover undertook fully to inform you of the peculiar and critical position in which he now finds himself.

Paraguay has for many years past almost exclusively employed Englishmen. The medical service of its army is entrusted to four English surgeons and an English apothecary. The works in its arsenal are carried on by a small number of English draughtsmen and mechanics. English engineers have charge of its steamers. Its railway, many of its public buildings, and the formidable system of defensive works which has so long set at defiance the allied armies, have been constructed under the supervision of three English civil engineers. Finally, its mines are worked by an English mining engineer.

It is mainly owing to the exertions of this handful of Englishmen that Paraguay, reduced to its own limited resources, has, under the direction of President Lopez, thus far been enabled to prolong the desperate struggle in which it has been engaged for upwards of two years. Hence the natural reluctance of his Excellency to part with men whose services are invaluable to him, and whom he cannot possibly hope to replace under present circumstances.

At a subsequent interview President Lopez said he would, in the absence of his Minister for Foreign Affairs at Asuncion, and on account of the difficulties of communicating with that capital, prefer that I should remain at his head-quarters; and he would therefore name his Secretary to treat with me officially. Should I persist in carrying out my instructions literally, he would be under the painful necessity of bringing the negotiations to an abrupt and disagreeable termination. However, if I would agree to be satisfied with the women and children, whom he was willing to give up on grounds of humanity, and represent to Her Majesty's Government that this was the only concession he was in a position to make at the present moment, he would most gladly consent to their departure, provided measures were taken to prevent their communicating to his adversaries any information which would be injurious to his cause.

I partially agreed to his terms, observing, however, that I could not take upon myself to guarantee that Her Majesty's Government would be satisfied with such a partial measure; but that of course it would materially lessen the unfavourable impression which an unconditional refusal would be certain to produce.

I have made up my mind to proceed with the greatest caution and moderation; and if eventually I find it impossible to obtain the release of those I have been commissioned to bring away, I will accept the compromise his Excellency has proposed, leaving it entirely open to Her Majesty's Government to take whatever further steps may be deemed most advisable to effect the deliverance of the British subjects who may still remain in Paraguay. With this object, I will not hurry on the negotiations, as, although I shall thereby expose myself to some danger and great personal discomfort, I feel convinced my countrymen will be in comparative safety as long as I remain among them. Besides, President Lopez's position has become so precarious that, even should the allies not venture upon an attack, the position of affairs may be materially altered from one day to another.

In conclusion, I beg to transmit herewith, for your information, translation of a note which General Barrios, the Paraguayan Minister for War, has, by the President's orders, addressed to me for the purpose of informing me that Señor Luis Caminos, his Excellency's Secretary, has been officially appointed to treat with me.

Inclosure 11 in No. 12.

General Barrios to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.) *Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, August* 21, 1867.

THE Undersigned, Brigadier-General of the armies of the Republic, and Minister Secretary of State for the Department of War and Marine, has the pleasure of addressing you, by order of his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic and Commander-in-chief of its armies, to inform you that, in consequence of your request, his Excellency has authorized the citizen, Luis Caminos, to treat with you on the subject of the Mission to the Republic, with which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has entrusted you.

His Excellency the Marshal President, being always disposed to facilitate as much as possible his relations with the Agents of friendly nations, has appointed Señor Caminos to receive and reply to the communications you may have to address to the Government of the Republic with regard to your Mission, his object being to avoid that the actual state of the country should cause any delay in bringing to a conclusion the Mission entrusted to you.

The distance from this to the capital of the Republic, and the state of the communications, which are less regular than in ordinary times, are the considerations which have induced his Excellency to appoint in this camp the person whom I have already mentioned.

(Signed) VICENTE BARRIOS.

Inclosure 12 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Head-Quarters, Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucú,
(Extract.) *September* 10, 1867.

ACTING upon the information conveyed to me in the note of General Barrios, the Minister for War and Marine, which forms an inclosure in my preceding despatch, I called upon Dr. Caminos, and as he expressed the wish that our negotiations should be carried on in writing, I addressed to him on the 23rd ultimo the note, copy of which I have the honour to transmit herewith to you. In this communication I merely stated the object of my Mission, and recorded the arguments I had brought forward in my previous conversations both with President Lopez and Señor Caminos. My principal reason for employing the French language, as you perceive, was, that though nominally corresponding with the latter, I was in reality addressing myself to the former who speaks French fluently, while he seems to have but an imperfect knowledge of the English.

Before replying to the above note the President expressed a desire to see me, but I was unfortunately prevented by illness from calling on his Excellency till the 28th ultimo, at night. In the presence of Señor Caminos, he read over the note and kindly pointed out what he considered a grammatical error, which I at once gladly corrected. He then pressed me to make another more important alteration which I did not feel myself at liberty to consent to; but I finally agreed to take back the note for re-consideration, in order to avoid what I feared might end in an unpleasant discussion, which I had every reason to be anxious to avoid.

His Excellency actually proposed to me so to alter the wording of the note as to make it appear that the only object of Her Majesty's Government, in sending the "Doterel" to Paraguay, was to facilitate the departure of the few English women whom his Excellency felt disposed to give up.

I explained that although these women had undoubtedly a prior claim, and Her Majesty's Government would be grateful for the exception made in their favour, still it did not in any way invalidate the claim of the other British subjects in his dominions to the consideration of their Government. I would, however, take time to reflect on his proposal, but I feared I was so bound by your instructions as to preclude the possibility of my complying with it.

The next morning I handed back to Señor Caminos the note in question, after having substituted the words "et surtout" for "en outre" at the beginning of the sentence, which refers specially to the English women in Paraguay.

I have the honour to forward herewith for your information, the whole of the subsequent correspondence which passed on this subject. It consists of Señor Caminos' notes of the 23rd ultimo and 3rd and 9th instant, accompanied by translations, as well as of the replies I addressed to the first two on the 1st and 4th instant.

The only remarks I will venture to make with regard to Señor Caminos' note of the 23rd ultimo are, that he avoids the main question; first, by speciously endeavouring to make it appear as if there were no British subjects in Paraguay desirous of leaving it; secondly, he does not think fit to give them an opportunity to express their wishes on the subject; thirdly, I regret to say he was perfectly aware at the time that several of them made no secret [of their wish] to quit Paraguay, though he was to a certain extent justified in asserting that none of them had officially applied for permission to leave. Finally, he admits they would not in any case be permitted to take their departure.

I may as well, before proceeding any further, point out to you the peculiar position occupied by British subjects in this remote Republic. They are all, with one single exception, I believe, in the Government service. Their contracts were made in England, and afterwards renewed in this country, but most of those contracts have expired since the beginning of the present war. Thus many, who might now desire to return home, were not at liberty to do so when the "Doterel" last visited Asuncion. Her stay was but short, and the object of her presence was not generally known. These British subjects have in general been very well treated by the President, and their salaries are regularly paid even now. However, on the one hand, owing to the depreciation of the paper currency, in which they receive one half of their wages, they have to submit to a loss of nearly 40 per cent., while on the other they have to pay exorbitant prices for whatever they require, in consequence of the rigorous blockade, which has excluded Paraguay from the rest of the world for upwards of two years. Those employed in the arsenal, by working extra hours, may perhaps succeed in making

up the above losses. President Lopez treats them very much as if they were a more valuable class of his own subjects, never consults their wishes, and employs them in any way that suits his purpose without their daring to offer the slightest objection. In this manner he may safely say he has never used compulsion towards them, as his wishes are no sooner conveyed to them than they are, in appearance at least, willingly complied with. On their side, the dread of incurring his displeasure is so great that they would hardly be likely to make any imprudent request, which would in all probability not be granted. and might entail upon them the most serious consequences.

Two of them lost their lives from scalds received in the engagement at Riachuels, and a third died shortly after being released from an unjust confinement of several months, in consequence of presumed misconduct after that naval action. These men had been engaged to serve with others on board the Government steamers; but these were merely river passenger boats, and it is a matter of doubt whether President Lopez was justified in taking them under fire without even giving them any notice.

The case of Mr. Henry Valpy is the most unjustifiable of any. This gentleman is a civil engineer, who came out specially from England with Mr. Burrell to make a railway. Mr. Valpy's contract, though once renewed, has long since expired, and the railway works are suspended in consequence of the war. This gentleman was indirectly asked to accept military service, but he had the strength of mind to refuse, and offered to give up his salary, as his services were no longer available. He was, however, induced by the President to continue drawing one-half of his pay, and since then he made himself as useful as he could in the capital. Ten or eleven months ago he was called to the Government-house, and told to prepare to proceed to this camp. He objected, but was informed it was the President's order, and consequently he would have to go. On his arrival in camp, his Excellency presented him with a sword, and requested him to get a military uniform, although he gave his Excellency to understand he had conscientious scruples, which prevented him from accepting military service. He has hitherto resisted putting on a military uniform, and has only been employed in making surveys at a distance from the enemy's positions; but even so shells have exploded in his immediate neighbourhood. He is treated very much as a prisoner, at large, and the President is so incensed at his passive resistance, and at his having through me, privately expressed a desire to leave, that I have, with reason, the greatest fears for his personal safety. The very fact of his often having been seen with me will, I apprehend, tell against him.

Dr. John Fox is also most anxious to retire. He is not bound by any contract, or even verbal engagement, and, moreover, he is in rather delicate health. I incidentally mentioned his name, without, however, compromising him.

Others would, I know, gladly do the same, but, fearing the consequences, wisely refrained from even expressing to me their ardent wishes on the subject. President Lopez, in an unguarded moment, acknowledged to me he considered he had a perfect right to treat Englishmen in his service (and he does not give them the option of retiring from it) just in the same way as he would his own subjects. The men in the arsenal for the most trivial offences are at once locked up, or put on board the steamers, where they have very hard work, and are continually exposed to the fire of the Brazilian ironclad squadron below Humaitá.

Such is the terror inspired by President Lopez that, fearing the information I had might be attributed to the unfortunate British subjects in the camp, I avoided, for their sakes, taking any notice of the case of a young English apothecary, who, for a slight breach of discipline, has been under arrest in the capital for the last nine or ten months. The position of British subjects in Paraguay was, up to the commencement of the present war, a very good one; but since then it has materially changed, as I believe I have succeeded in proving, and may yet, I fear, become still more precarious.

Señor Caminos, in his note of the 3rd instant, gives a long list of British subjects who, in addition to Dr. Barton, have left the country since the departure from Asuncion of Her Majesty's gunboat "Doterel" in June 1865. The real facts of the case are these:—Dr. Barton himself had the greatest difficulty in accomplishing his purpose, and was fully three months before he succeeded in doing so. Mr. J. Packingson and his wife had their passages engaged on board a vessel before the arrival of the "Doterel," and were detained in the river five months under one pretext or another. The others were the supercargo and officers of a steamer called the "Flying Fish," which was sold to the Paraguayan Government, with the express stipulation that her crew should be sent out of the country. Señor Caminos has, to the best of my belief, succeeded in naming all those who have left since that period, although he states he was unable to refer to the official lists of departures.

The difference which Señor Caminos complains of between what he understood me to say and the tenor of my note of the 1st September is, I trust you will find, satisfactorily disposed of in the subsequent note I addressed to him on the 4th of this month.

Finding it utterly hopeless to attain the object of my Mission, I requested permission for those British subjects in this camp, who might like to retire to the capital, to be kindly allowed to do so. This very moderate request was likewise curtly rejected, as you will see from Señor Caminos' note of the the 9th instant.

Although my Mission, which was from the very first so beset with difficulties, that I never entertained hopes of being able to bring it to a favourable conclusion, has only been partially successful, still I have the satisfaction of feeling that, without in any way compromising Her Majesty's Government, I have left no means untried of rescuing the British subjects in Paraguay from the painful position in which they find themselves in common with the citizens and subjects of all other nations, even of those who enjoy the advantage of having representatives in the country itself. I have good reason to doubt if these representatives themselves, in the present desperate straits in which President Lopez finds himself, would not meet with the greatest difficulties in getting out of Paraguay.

During my prolonged stay in this camp my unfortunate countrymen have happily been in comparative safety, although my position was both irksome in the extreme, and not altogether unattended with danger from various quarters. The whole camp is now more or less within the range of the enemy's guns, and President Lopez's violence is such that I was repeatedly warned to be most guarded in my intercourse with him.

The British subjects in the camp, the only ones I have had an opportunity of communicating with, all expressed their deep gratitude for the kind interest displayed in their welfare by Her Majesty's Government, and the hope they entertained that further steps would be taken for their deliverance.

President Lopez is also fully aware of the grave responsibility he has taken upon himself by refusing to comply with the just demands of Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 13 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Señor Caminos.

Head-Quarters, Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucú,
M. le Secrétaire, *le* 23 *Août*, 1867.

ME rendant au désir que vous avez bien voulu m'exprimer, lorsque j'eus l'honneur de vous remettre personnellement hier après midi la dépêche qui, tout en vous faisant connaître le but de la mission dont le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté a daigné me charger, m'accrédite auprès du Gouvernement de son Excellence M. le Président de la République pour les fins de la dite mission, je n'hésite point à consigner dans cette note les arguments que je me suis cru en droit d'avancer, afin de ne laisser aucun doute sur la portée et l'importance de la démarche toute amicale à laquelle mon auguste Souveraine s'est décidée en m'envoyant, sur un de ses navires, à la République du Paraguay.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté voulant faciliter à ceux des sujets Britanniques, actuellement établis en Paraguay, qui désireraient rentrer en Angleterre, les moyens de pouvoir le faire malgré les opérations de guerre qui, depuis plus de deux ans, malheureusement interrompent les communications entre les deux pays, s'est d'abord adressé au Chargé d'Affaires de la République à Londres. Il (mon Gouvernement) lui a, j'ai tout lieu de croire, exprimé l'espoir que, vu les relations amicales qui existent entre la Grande Bretagne et la République du Paraguay, aucun empêchement ne serait mis par les autorités Paraguayennes au libre départ de tous les sujets Britanniques qui voudraient profiter des facilités ainsi mises à leur disposition pour leur prompt rapatriement. Parmi eux il se trouve des gens dont les contrats avec le Gouvernement de la République ont depuis longtemps perimé, et qu'avec la justice qui le distingue, son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président ne serait que trop heureux de rendre à leurs familles dans le cas, bien entendu, qu'ils en fissent connaître le désir. En outre (et surtout) il y a des femmes et des veuves d'Anglais chargées d'enfants qui ne doivent, pour des raisons aussi évidentes à vous, M. le Secrétaire, qu'à moi, continuer à rester sans but exposées aux périls de la guerre. J'oserais même ajouter, s'il y avait lieu,—mais je considère tout à fait superflu de le faire, vu le caractère si bien connu de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président,—que les droits d'humanité réclament impérieusement qu'elles soient mises le plutôt possible à l'abri de toute éventualité. Je suis convaincu que mon Gouvernement n'est animé que des senti-

ments les plus bienveillants envers le Gouvernement de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, et qu'à l'avenir il sera heureux d'entretenir avec la République des relations plus suivies et plus intimes que celles qui, par des circonstances hors de sa volonté, n'ont subsisté jusqu'ici.

Je ne puis cependant vous cacher, M. le Secrétaire, que dans le cas d'un refus,—un évènement tout aussi imprévu par mon Gouvernement que par moi, depuis que j'ai eu l'occasion d'apprécier personnellement les vues élevées et le caractère plein de noblesse et de générosité de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président,—serait, on ne peut plus, péniblement impressionné, et se verrait obligé, malgré lui, de retirer les sympathies qu'il était, sans entrer nullement dans les causes de la guerre, tout prêt à accorder à une nation qui, sous l'habile direction de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, à su jusqu'ici si héroiquement se défendre. Je dois aussi vous rappeler, M. le Secrétaire, que sans nul doute le résultat de la mission qui m'a été confiée aura un grand retentissement, non seulement en Angleterre, mais dans les autres pays qui s'intéressent au sort de la République.

Prenant en considération les circonstances toutes exceptionnelles où se trouve le Gouvernement de la République à cause de la guerre actuelle, et désirant faire preuve des sentiments qui m'animent, je suis tout disposé à faciliter les arrangements qui pourraient paratre les plus convenables à son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président par rapport au but de ma mission.

En terminant je suis très heureux de pouvoir constater que les sujets Britanniques avec lesquels je me suis trouvé en rapport depuis mon arrivé à ce quartier-général m'ont tous assuré qu'ils n'avaient qu'à se louer de la manière bienveillante dont ils ont été traités depuis qu'ils se trouvent sur le territoire de la République.

(Signé) G. F. GOULD.

(Translation.)

Head-Quarters of the Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucú,
August 23, 1867.

M. le Secrétaire,

ACCEDING to the wish which you were good enough to express to me, when I had the honour of handing over to you in person, yesterday afternoon, the despatch which, in making known to you the object of the mission with which Her Majesty's Government has deigned to charge me, also accredits me to the Government of his Excellency the President of the Republic for the ends of the said mission, I do not hesitate to set down in this note the arguments which I have thought it right to advance, in order to leave no doubt as to the bearing and importance of the friendly step for which my august Sovereign has decided to send me in one of her ships to the Republic of Paraguay.

The Government of Her Majesty, wishing to obtain for those British subjects actually established in Paraguay who might wish to return to England the means of doing so, in spite of the operations of the war which, for more than two years, interrupts unfortunately the communications between the two countries, addressed itself, in the first instance to the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic in London. It (my Government) expressed to him, I have every reason to believe, the hope that, in view of the amicable relations which subsist between Great Britain and the Republic of Paraguay, no obstacle would be placed by the Paraguayan authorities in the way of the free departure of all British subjects who might wish to take advantage of the facilities thus placed at their disposal for their prompt return to their own country. Amongst them are people whose contracts with the Government of the Republic have long since expired, and whom, with the justice which distinguishes him, his Excellency the Marshal President would only be too glad to restore to their families, in the case, of course, of their expressing a desire to that effect. Moreover (and especially), there are English women and widows with children who ought not, for reasons sufficiently evident to you, M. le Secrétaire, as to me, to continue to remain needlessly exposed to the perils of war. I should even presume to add, if there were any necessity for it,—but I consider it quite superfluous to do so, in view of the character so well known of his Excellency the Marshal President,—that the rights of humanity imperatively demand that they should be placed as soon as possible secure from every eventuality. I am convinced that my Government is only animated by the most friendly sentiments towards the Government of his Excellency the Marshal President, and that in the future it will be happy to maintain with the Republic more regular and closer relations than those which, from circumstances beyond its control, have hitherto subsisted.

I cannot, however, conceal from you, M. le Secrétaire, that a refusal,—an event quite as unlooked for by my Government as by myself, since I have had the occasion of appreciating personally the elevated views and the noble and generous character of his Excel-

lency the Marshal President,—would make such a painful impression on it that it would find itself compelled, in spite of itself, to withdraw the sympathy which it was, without in any way entering into the causes of the war, ready to accord to a nation which, under the able direction of his Excellency the Marshal President, has known how till now so heroically to defend itself. I must also remind you, M. le Secrétaire, that without a doubt the result of the mission which has been confided to me will cause a great sensation, not only in England, but in the other countries which are interested in the fate of the Republic.

Taking into consideration the exceptional circumstances in which the Government of the Republic finds itself, on account of the actual war, and wishing to give a proof of the sentiments which animate me, I am quite disposed to facilitate the arrangements which might seem most suitable to his Excellency the Marshal President, having reference to the object of my mission.

In conclusion, I have great pleasure in notifying to you that the British subjects with whom I have been in communication since my arrival at head-quarters have all assured me that they had nothing but praise to bestow for the kind manner in which they have been treated since they have been in the territory of the Republic.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 14 in No. 12.

Señor Caminos to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, August* 31, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note you were pleased to address to me on the 23rd instant, and which having been withdrawn for the re-consideration of certain points, was returned to me on the 29th in the afternoon, stating that the object of the special Mission with which you have been entrusted by the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty at Buenos Ayres, is solely to request that the British residents in this country may be allowed to return home in spite of the military operations which, for upwards of two years, interrupt the communications between the two countries. It being well understood, according to the tenor of the note, which I have the honour of answering, that this request applies to those who, after fulfilling their contracts with the Government of the Republic, desire to take advantage of the means placed at their disposal by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, by embarking on board the man-of-war which conveyed you to the territory of the Republic; and more especially among the British subjects there are women and widows, who ought not, for reasons as evident to me as they are to you, to continue to remain needlessly exposed to the perils of war. You express the hope of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, that the Paraguayan authorities will offer no impediment to the free departure of the British subjects who may desire to avail themselves of the facilities thus placed at their disposal for their speedy return to their homes. "I would even venture to add," you say, if it were necessary, but I deem it quite superfluous to do so, considering the well-known sentiments of his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic, "that the rights of humanity render it imperative that they (the women) should as soon as possible be placed beyond the reach of all danger."

After expressing your conviction that Her Britannic Majesty's Government is animated by no other but the most friendly feelings towards the Government of his Excellency the Marshal President, and that in future it will be happy to maintain with the Republic of Paraguay more permanent and intimate relations than have, owing to circumstances beyond its control, hitherto existed, and you declare you cannot conceal from me that, in case of an unfavourable decision on the part of the Government of the Republic, an event as unforeseen by your Government as by you, it would make a most painful impression on the Queen's Government, which would find itself unwillingly compelled to withdraw the sympathies it was very much disposed to entertain.

With respect to the said note, I have received orders from his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic to reply to it, and I have great pleasure in thanking Her Britannic Majesty's Government for the conviction it entertained, that the Paraguayan authorities would offer no impediment to the departure of the British subjects, since the Paraguayan Government has always given proofs to Her Majesty's Government of this (disposition) by not raising the slightest obstacle to the free arrival in, and departure from, the Republic, of its subjects, not only in ordinary times, but

likewise since the outbreak of the war, during which the "Doterel" visited the port of Asuncion; and even after that period all the British subjects who wished, have freely continued, without distinction, to quit the Republic on board the neutral or war vessels which have left our ports; and if at the present date there are others to be found in the country, it is that it has suited them to remain, and that they have not asked to leave.

I can assure you that, even now, the Government is not aware that any British subject has evinced any such wish, and the greater number of them being contracted in England by the Government, those whose contracts have expired, far from having been dismissed from the service, continue at their professional pursuits with the same, or even higher salaries than formerly, although not a single one of them has been compelled to do so against his will.

My Government is therefore not aware that any individual finds himself in the position which forms the object of your Mission, and this is so much the more agreeable, as at this moment it would have been impossible to accede to your request, however painful such a refusal would have been, since the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has recently had to notify that the Government found itself under the necessity, owing to the position of the military operations, of not permitting the departure from the country of any individual who is not in an official capacity.

From that date to this, those military operations have progressed still further, and the necessity of observing this rule has become still more imperative.

It is, doubtless, very probable that the three widows you allude to, two of them widows of British subjects, and one the widow of a Paraguayan citizen, who receive assistance from the Government without being in any way called upon to work, have not left the country for want of an opportunity to do so, may not wish to remain any longer away from their homes; his Excellency, in responding to this appeal of humanity, will be happy to avail himself of the opportunity offered by you, provided that, taking into consideration the actual state of affairs, your Mission can be limited to this object, and that you will kindly explain the nature of the guarantees you offer.

If, unfortunately, this concession in favour of distressed widows and their children, the changes which have occurred in the course of the war since your instructions were framed in Europe, the constant protection which for many years the Government has extended to all British subjects, although there was no representative of Her Britannic Majesty in the country, the assurances which you say you have received on the part of all the British subjects whom you have met at these head-quarters, that they have every reason to be grateful for the kindness they have experienced ever since their arrival in the country, your own presence in this camp, and the exchange of this correspondence, when the Legation to which you belong has not yet been accredited to the Government of Paraguay, at a moment when the enemy of our country enlists British subjects among its troops, provides itself in England with all the war-material it requires, and obtains money by public loans, in order to be enabled to carry on the war against the friendly people of Paraguay, have not sufficient weight in the wise councils of Her Majesty the Queen, and alienate the sympathies of Her Government, as you have stated, it would be very distressing to his Excellency the Marshal President, but he will remain under the conviction that he has done all in his power to gain for Paraguay, whose heroic defence you yourself admit, not the sympathies, but, at least, the good friendship of England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LUIS CAMINOS.

Inclosure 15 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Señor Caminos.

M. le Secrétaire, *Paso Pucú, le* 1 *Septembre*, 1867.

EN ayant l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre note en date d'hier (31 Août), par laquelle vous voulez bien me communiquer la détermination que son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président a daigné prendre sur la demande que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine m'a chargé d'adresser à celui de la République par rapport au rapatriement des sujets Britanniques qui se trouvent actuellement au Paraguay, c'est avec une bien vive satisfaction que je me plais à reconnaître les sentiments de bienveillance et de conciliation avec lesquels son Excellence a bien voulu accueillir cette démarche toute amicale, et qui ne pourront manquer, j'en suis convaincu, M. le Secrétaire, d'être appréciés par mon Gouvernement comme ils le méritent.

Je me ferai également un devoir de signaler au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté les circonstances toutes exceptionnelles où, à la suite des dernières opérations militaires, se trouve placé son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, et je ne négligerai pas non plus d'appeler l'attention sérieuse du Principal Secrétaire d'Etat de Sa Majesté pour les affaires étrangères sur les ressources en fait d'argent, de matériel de guerre, et d'hommes que, d'après les renseignements qui seraient parvenus à son Excellence, les Puissances Alliées ne cesseraient de puiser dans le Royaume Uni, pour être employées contre la République, dont le Gouvernement se trouve dans des rapports de bonne intelligence et d'amitié avec celui de Sa Majesté.

Si les infractions à la stricte neutralité invariablement observée, en de pareilles circonstances, par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine, dont vous vous plaignez, venaient à se vérifier, je ne puis douter un instant, M. le Secrétaire, qu'elles ont du être commises à son insu, et que dès qu'elles lui auront été signalées, il n'hésitera pas à y mettre fin.

Tout en remerciant, au nom de mon Gouvernement, son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président pour la permission qu'il a si obligeamment accordée à certaines veuves Anglaises de quitter le territoire de la République, je dois vous faire remarquer, M. le Secrétaire, que le refus, dont cette permission est malheureusement précédé, d'étendre cette mesure aux autres sujets de Sa Majesté dans le Paraguay, ne peut pas, je regrette de le dire, même trouver une justification dans les circonstances exceptionnelles que traverse la République, comme il me sera facile de vous le démontrer.

D'abord rien ne saurait justifier à une nation belligérante ni l'emploi forcé au service militaire des sujets d'une Puissance amie (ce que, je me hâte de constater, n'est jamais, à ce que je sâche, arrivé dans le cours de cette grande guerre), ni leur détention sur son territoire, du moment que leur départ ne porte aucune entrave aux opérations de guerre.

Cet usage entre nations se trouve consacré d'une manière incontestable dans le Décret de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, accordant aux sujets de la République de Bolivie, malgré l'état de guerre actuel, l'autorisation de passer et de repasser librement les frontières du Paraguay.

Mon Gouvernement prévoyant les difficultés et inconvénients que pourrait présenter le passage d'un camp à l'autre des sujets Britanniques établis dans le Paraguay, a envoyé tout spécialement un navire de guerre pour les prendre à son bord et les transporter au delà du théâtre de la guerre. De mon côté, je me suis offert dans ma note précédente à prendre toutes mesures et à donner toutes les garanties qui pourraient dans les circonstances actuelles paraître les plus opportunes au Gouvernement de la République. Ainsi les sujets Britanniques en question pourraient sans difficulté être transportés directement du Paraguay en Angleterre, sans toucher le territoire des nations en guerre avec la République, ni même communiquer avec les sujets de ces mêmes nations.

Vous me faites observer, M. le Secrétaire, que lors du dernier séjour de la canonnière de Sa Majesté " Doterel " à l'Asuncion, aucun sujet Britannique n'a manifesté le désir de se retirer du Paraguay. J'en conviens avec vous, mais je me permettrai de vous rappeler que depuis cette époque plus de deux années se sont écoulées, que bien des contrats ont dû périmer dans ce long laps de temps, et qu'il ne serait pas impossible que quelques-uns du moins de ces mêmes sujets Britanniques aient changé d'avis. D'après le départ de la canonnière de Sa Majesté, le seul Anglais qui ait réussi à se rendre à l'étranger est, si je ne me trompe, le Dr. Barton ; car, à partir de ce moment, les difficultés qui s'opposaient déjà à la sortie des sujets de Sa Majesté du territoire Paraguayen, se sont tellement aggravées qu'il aurait été tout à fait inutile qu'ils en manifestassent le désir au Gouvernement de la République. Je regrette d'avoir à ajouter que vous avez été induit en erreur, en pensant que parmi les sujets de Sa Majesté il ne se trouve aucun que veuille profiter des facilités mises à leur disposition par mon Gouvernement pour rentrer chez eux, et je puis même vous assurer, M. le Secrétaire, que, dans le cas où l'autorisation préalable en fût gracieusement accordée par son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, plusieurs d'entre eux l'accepteraient avec la plus vive reconnaissance.

Vous conviendrez donc avec moi, je n'en doute pas, M. le Secrétaire, que la notification de son Excellence M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la République, annonçant aux sujets d'autres nationalités qu'il leur est défendu de quitter le territoire du Paraguay ne peut s'appliquer d'aucune façon aux sujets de Sa Majesté la Reine, qui se sont trouvés dans une toute autre position du moment qu'un navire de guerre a été expressément envoyé pour les transporter, s'il le faut, directement dans leur patrie, et que leur départ ne peut, par conséquent, apporter le moindre préjudice aux opérations de guerre qui se poursuivent actuellement.

A part les importantes considérations que j'ai eu l'honneur de vous soumettre dans cette note, M. le Secrétaire, et qui, je l'espère, feront modifier la résolution, défavorable aux vœux de mon Gouvernement, que le Gouvernement de la République s'était cru dans la

nécessité d'adopter, je ne puis conclure sans faire encore un appel, en faveur de mes compatriotes, aux sentiments magnanimes et à la bonté d'âme de son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président, qui en étendant aux quelques sujets Britanniques qui désireraient rentrer dans le sein de leurs familles, la permission qu'il a accordée aux veuves Anglaises, s'assurerait la profonde reconnaissance non-seulement de ma gracieuse Souveraine, mais de tout son peuple, dont son Excellence, mieux que tout autre, sait apprécier à leur juste valeur les sentiments et le caractère.

(Signé) G. F. GOULD.

(Translation.)

M. le Secrétaire, *Paso Pucú, September* 1, 1867.

IN doing myself the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your note dated yesterday (August 31), in which you are so good as to communicate to me the determination which his Excellency the Marshal President has seen fit to arrive at with regard to the demand which the Government of Her Majesty the Queen has directed me to address to that of the Republic respecting the return to their country of the British subjects now in Paraguay, it is with the liveliest satisfaction that I have the pleasure of doing justice to the sentiments of good will and conciliation with which his Excellency has been pleased to receive this friendly step, and which, I am convinced, M. le Secretaire, cannot fail to be appreciated as they deserve by my Government.

I shall also make it my duty to lay before Her Majesty's Government the very exceptional circumstances in which his Excellency the Marshal President is placed on account of the last military operations; neither shall I omit to call the serious attention of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the resources in money, materials of war and men which, according to the information said to have been received by his Excellency, the allied Powers would not fail to draw from the United Kingdom to be employed against the Republic, whose Government is in a position of friendship and good understanding towards that of Her Majesty.

Should the infringements of which you complain on the strict neutrality invariably observed under similar circumstances by the Government of Her Majesty the Queen be verified, I cannot for one moment doubt, M. le Secretaire, that they have been committed without its knowledge, and that so soon as they shall have been laid before it, Her Majesty's Government will not hesitate to put a stop to them.

Whilst in the name of my Government thanking his Excellency the Marshal President for the permission which he has so obligingly granted to certain English widows to quit the territory of the Republic, I must beg you to remark, M. le Secrétaire, that the refusal which unfortunately precedes this permission to extend this measure to the other subjects of Her Majesty in Paraguay, cannot, I regret to say, even be justified by the exceptional circumstances which the Republic is now passing through, as I can easily prove to you.

To begin with. Nothing can justify a belligerent nation in the compulsory employment of the subjects of a friendly Power in military service (an act which, I hasten to state, has never, to my knowledge, occurred in the course of this great war), nor their detention in its territory, from the moment when their departure would cause no hindrance to warlike operations.

This international custom is established incontestably by the Decree of his Excellency the Marshal President, which accords to the subjects of the Bolivian Republic, notwithstanding the existing state of war, authority to pass and repass freely the frontiers of Paraguay.

My Government, foreseeing the difficulties and embarrassments which might be presented by the passage from one camp to the other of the British subjects established in Paraguay, has sent specially a ship of war to take them on board, and to carry them out of the theatre of war. For my part, I offered in my previous note to take all the measures and to give all the securities which might seem most opportune to the Government of the Republic under the existing circumstances. Thus the British subjects in question might easily be conveyed directly from Paraguay to England without touching the territory of the nations at war with the Republic, or even communicating with the subjects of these same nations.

You remark to me, M. le Secrétaire, that at the time of the last stay of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel" at Asuncion, no British subject showed any wish to withdraw from Paraguay. In this I agree with you; but I must beg to remind you, that since that time more than two years have elapsed, that many contracts must have expired in this long lapse of time, and that it would not be impossible that at least some of these British subjects should have changed their minds. Since the departure of Her Majesty's gun-boat, Dr. Barton is, if I am not mistaken, the only Englishman who has succeeded in quitting the country; for, since that time, the difficulties which even then presented

themselves to the departure of Her Majesty's subjects from Paraguayan territory, have become so greatly aggravated that it would have been quite useless for them to have made known their desire to do so to the Government of the Republic.

I regret to have to add, that you have been led into an error, in thinking that amongst Her Majesty's subjects there are none who would profit by the facilities to return home placed at their disposal by my Government; and I can even assure you, M. le Secrétaire, that in case the preliminary authority were graciously granted by his Excellency Marshal President, many of them would accept it with the most lively gratitude.

I doubt not then, M. le Secrétaire, that you will agree with me that the notice of his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic, announcing to the subjects of other nationalties that they are forbidden to leave the territory of Paraguay, can in no way be applied to the subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, who were in quite a different position from the moment that a ship of war had been sent expressly to convey them, if necessary, direct to their country, and that their departure cannot, in consequence, be of the least prejudice to the warlike proceedings now in opération.

Apart from the important considerations which I have had the honour to submit to you in this note, M. le Secrétaire, and which I hope will cause the modification of the resolution, unfavourable as it is in the eyes of my Government, which the Government of the Republic thought itself obliged to adopt, I cannot conclude without making one more appeal in favour of my fellow-countrymen to the magnanimous sentiments and goodness of heart of his Excellency the Marshal President, who by extending to the few British subjects who may desire to return to the bosom of their families the permission which he granted to the English widows, would assure to him the deep gratitude, not only of my gracious Sovereign, but of all her nation,—a nation whose sentiments and character his Excellency, before all others, can appreciate at their just value.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 16 in No. 12.

Señor Caminos to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, September* 3, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 1st instant (which was delivered to me yesterday), in reply to mine of the 31st ultimo.

I must not conceal from you the painful impression which the perusal of that communication caused me, all the more unexpected by me since the spirit and the terms of my note had been agreed to by you; and up to the date of the note I am replying to, you were kind enough to repeat in most obliging terms your entire satisfaction with that communication, giving me positive hopes that it would likewise be considered satisfactory by Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

However, what a difference there is to be found between your opinion expressed in such a categorical and energetic manner, and the tenor of your note of the 1st!

Permit me to remark that when I spoke incidentally to you of the want of neutrality on the part of Great Britain in favour of our enemies during the present struggle in which my country finds itself involved, I did not mean to raise a question, but merely to reply to a threat which you thought proper to make in your note of the 23rd ultimo, that in case your request was not complied with, Her Majesty's Government would withhold the sympathies which it was much inclined to feel towards Paraguay. I nevertheless thank you for the confidence you express that the British Government will cause an end to be put to such irregular proceedings.

You do not find that the exceptional position in which the Republic is placed, is any justification for not extending to British subjects the humane concession made in favour of three widows, to whom you specially refer in your before-mentioned note of the 23rd ultimo, and which it would be easy for you to prove, reminding me with that object of the decree by which his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic has on the side of Upper Paraguay thrown open trade with the neighbouring Republic of Bolivia, with which he is entirely at peace. But should the terms of that decree be of any use to British subjects, I can declare to you that they are in no way excluded from benefiting by it.

You are pleased to inform me, that I have been misled in thinking that among Her Majesty's subjects there is no one who would wish to take advantage of the facilities for leaving, now placed at their disposal, when there are many who would thankfully do so

were the necessary permission granted. I have not pretended to say so; I merely stated that the Government was not aware of any such a desire on the part of any one of them, and I should be grateful to you if you would let me know the names of those who find themselves in that position.

Neither have I asserted that when Her Britannic Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel" visited Asuncion, no British subject had expressed a desire to leave Paraguay, although facts lead me to believe that such is the case; but I must correct your impression that since that period, only Dr. Barton has succeeded in getting out of the country, which is not the case; for, without any difficulty, Messrs. James Packingson, Edward Raelly, George Stewart, John Hoggrer, James Hassen, and others whom I might name had I the lists of departures succeeded also (in leaving Paraguay). Among these persons there are some whose travelling expenses were disbursed by the Government, which proves that you were led into a mistake when you said that Surgeon Barton was the only one who had succeeded in quitting the country.

In this manner, without any impediment on the part of the national authorities, the citizens and subjects of other friendly nations have been leaving Paraguay every time they have had an opportunity of doing so; and you see there was no just motive to prevent British subjects from leaving, nor, as you say, would it have been idle for them to have expressed the wish to leave the country until the late Ministerial notification to which I have called your attention.

His Excellency the Marshal President is grieved that his gracious concession in favour of distressed widows and their children—far from having satisfied your demands—has only served as a basis for a discussion, which I ought not to have expected, judging from what had been previously agreed upon between us, before and after drawing up my note of the 31st ultimo; but if they (the widows and their families) cannot avail themselves of this opportunity, you may rest assured that they will be as well provided for as they have been hitherto.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LUIS CAMINOS.

Inclosure 17 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Señor Caminos.

M. le Secrétaire, *Paso Pucú, le 4 Septembre,* 1867.

EN réponse à votre note d'hier, qui ne m'a été remise qu'à onze heures et demie du soir, et dans laquelle j'ai l'extrême regret de voir que son Excellence M. le Président, malgré les observations que j'ai cru de mon devoir de lui soumettre par votre entremise avec toute la déférence dûe à sa haute position, persiste à considérer qu'il ne lui est pas permis de faire, en faveur des sujets de Sa Majesté la Reine, une exception à la position où se trouvent aujourd'hui tous les étrangers dans le Paraguay, à part les citoyens de la République limitrophe de Bolivie, par suite d'une notification Ministérielle, leur imposant la défense de sortir du territoire de la République, je me bornerai à essayer de relever le sens de certains passages dans mes notes du 23 Août et 1 Septembre qui n'auront peut-être pas été aussi clairs que je l'aurais désiré.

J'ai donc l'honneur de vous prier de croire, M. le Secretaire, que la phrase dans ma note du 23 Août que vous voulez bien interpréter comme une menace ne l'est nullement, puisque, en m'exprimant comme je me suis permis de le faire, je n'ai eu uniquement en vue que de vous prévenir que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté avait entière confiance que sa démarche toute amicale auprès de son Excellence M. le Président ne pourrait qu'être accueillie favorablement, comme il avait tout lieu d'espérer, et que par conséquent un refus de la part de son Excellence lui serait d'autant plus pénible qu'il serait inattendu.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté s'est lui-même exprimé dans ce sens à M. le Chargé d'Affaires de la République à Londres, comme il conste dans les instructions dont j'ai l'honneur d'être muni.

Vous passez ensuite à vous plaindre de la différence qui, à ce qu'il vous paraîtrait, M. le Sécrétaire, existe entre mes déclarations verbales et la teneur de mes notes du 1 Septembre.

C'est avec un vrai regret que je m'aperçois que j'ai si mal réussi, malgré tous mes efforts sincères, à vous démontrer que je désirais faire accorder autant que possible mon devoir envers mon Gouvernement avec les concessions dûes aux circonstances exceptionnelles où se trouve la République, et vous voudrez bien par conséquent, M. le Secrétaire,

me permettre de vous offrir quelques mots d'explication sur cette différence apparente entre mes déclarations verbales et ma dernière note.

Dans la démarche de mon Gouvernement, il est nécessaire de ne pas oublier qu'il ne s'agit point d'une convenance, mais d'un principe dont il ne faut pas se cacher l'importance générale. Or, mon Gouvernement, en me transmettant ses instructions, n'a pas spécifié une catégorie en particulier de ses sujets à l'exclusion de toutes les autres, mais a bien voulu étendre à tous ses sujets dans le Paraguay les avantages que pourrait leur procurer l'envoi d'un de ses navires de guerre. Vouz conviendrez donc avec moi, M. le Secrétaire, que, quoique j'acceptasse avec une vive reconnaissance des mains de son Excellence le Maréchal Président une offre dictée par des motifs d'humanité, mes instructions ne me permettaient guère de passer sous silence le refus d'une demande basée sur un droit universellement reconnu jusqu'à ce jour.

Ne pouvant, comme vous le savez mieux que moi, me prévaloir de la permission que vous avez l'extrême bonté de m'offrir, de permettre aux sujets Britanniques de se retirer du Paraguay par la frontière du Nord, je considère qu'il est superflu de s'y arrêter davantage—cette permission étant à peu près illusoire.

Quant à l'incident que M. Barton ne soit pas le seul Anglais qui ait réussi à se rendre à l'étranger après le départ de la canonnière de Sa Majesté "Doterel," j'avoue que, faute de renseignements précis officiels, comme vous devez en posséder, je me suis sans doute trompé; mais il n'en reste pas moins patent que depuis deux ans aucun sujet Britannique n'a pu quitter le Paraguay, malgré tout le bon vouloir du Gouvernement de la République, que je ne me permettrai nullement de revoquer en doute.

En conclusion, je ne puis que vous assurer que je ne manquerai pas d'informer exactement le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté de toutes les difficultés qui ont pu mettre son Excellence M. le Président dans la fâcheuse nécessité de devoir décliner la demande que mon Gouvernement a jugé à propos de lui adresser par mon entremise, et, mettant de côté toute question de droit, j'en appelle directement aux sentiments d'humanité de son Excellence de daigner permettre (comme il l'a offert d'abord de plein gré) aux trois veuves Anglaises et leurs familles, mentionnées dans vos deux dernières notes, de s'embarquer sur la canonnière de Sa Majesté qui m'a amené. Cette concession gracieuse et spontanée de son Excellence serait de beaucoup rehaussé aux yeux de mon Gouvernement, si son Excellence, avec la bonté de cœur qui le distingue, permettrait en même temps à tous les sujets de Sa Majesté actuellement dans ce camp de se retirer, s'ils le voulaient, à la capitale de la République jusqu'à la fin de cette guerre.

Dans le cas où son Excellence M. le Président daignât accéder à la prière que je viens de lui adresser, je ne serai que trop heureux de prolonger mon séjour à ce quartier-général tout le temps nécessaire; autrement, M. le Secrétaire, je devrais vous prier de vouloir bien me faciliter les moyens de me rembarquer, afin que je puisse sans plus de délai rendre compte à mon Gouvernement du resultat de ma mission.

(Signé) G. F. GOULD.

(Translation.)

M. le Secrétaire, *Paso Pucú, September* 4, 1867.

IN answer to your note of yesterday, which was only delivered to me at half-past 11 P.M., and in which I regret extremely to see that his Excellency the President, in spite of the observations which I thought it my duty to submit to him through you, with all the deference due to his high position, persists in thinking that it is not permitted him to make, in favour of the subjects of Her Majesty the Queen, an exception to the position in which all the strangers in Paraguay now find themselves, with the exception of the citizens of the contiguous Republic of Bolivia, in accordance with a Ministerial notice, forbidding them to leave the territory of the Republic, I will confine myself to trying to show the sense of certain passages in my notes of the 23rd August and 1st September, which, perhaps, might not have been as clear as I could have wished.

I have, then, the honour to beg you to believe, M. le Secrétaire, that the phrase in my note of the 23rd August which you think fit to interpret as a threat is in no wise such, since, in expressing myself as I took the liberty of doing, my sole object was to warn you that the Government of Her Majesty had full confidence that the entirely friendly step they took towards his Excellency the President could only meet with a favourable reception, as they had every reason to hope, and that, consequently, a refusal on the part of his Excellency would be all the more painful to them from its being so unexpected.

Her Majesty's Government expressed themselves in this sense to the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic in London, as they affirm in the instructions with which I have the honour to be furnished.

You then go on to complain of the difference which, as it would appear to you

M. le Secrétaire, exists between my verbal declarations and the tenor of my notes of the 1st September.

It is with real regret that I perceive that I have succeeded so badly, notwithstanding all my sincere efforts, in proving to you that I wished so far as possible to harmonize my duty towards my Government with the concessions due to the exceptional circumstances in which the Republic finds itself, and you will be so good in consequence, M. le Secrétaire, as to allow me to offer some words of explanation upon this apparent difference between my verbal declarations and my last note.

In the proeeedings of my Government, it is necessary not to forget that it is not a question of etiquette, but of a principle of which we must not conceal from ourselves the general importance. Now, my Goverument, in transmitting me their instructions, have not specified a category in particular of their subjects to the exclusion of all the others, but have been pleased to extend to all their subjects in Paraguay the advantages which might be procured them by the sending of one of their ships of war. You will agree with me, then, M. le Secrétaire, that though I accepted with a lively gratitude from the hands of his Excellency the Marshal President an offer dictated by motives of humanity, my instructions scarcely permitted me to pass by in silence the refusal of a demand based upon a right universally recognized up to this day.

Not being able, as you know better than I, to avail myself of the permission which you have the extreme kindness to offer me, to permit British subjects to retire from Paraguay by the frontier of the north, I consider that it is superfluous to dwell longer upon it, as this permission is nearly illusory.

As to the fact that Mr. Barton is not the only Englishman who has succeeded in leaving the country after the departure of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel," I confess, that through want of precise and official information, as you ought to have, I was, doubtless, wrong; but it remains none the less patent that, since two years, no British subject has been able to quit Paraguay, notwithstanding all the goodwill of the Government of the Republic, which I will in no wise permit myself to call in question.

In conclusion, I can only assnre you that I shall not fail to give Her Majesty's Government exact information of all the difficulties which can have put his Excellency the President to the vexatious necessity of having to decline the request which my Government has thought fit to address him through me, and putting aside all question; of right, I appeal directly to his Excellency's sentiments of humanity to deign to permit (as he at first offered most willingly) the three English widows and their families, mentioned in your two last notes, to embark on board Her Majesty's gun-boat which brought me here. This gracious and spontaneous concession of his Excellency would be greatly heightened in the eyes of my Government, if his Excellency, with that goodness of heart which distinguishes him, would at the same time permit all Her Majesty's subjects now in this camp to withdraw, if they wished it, to the capital of the Republic till the end of this war.

In case his Excellency the President should deign to grant the prayer which I have just addressed him, I shall only be too happy to prolong my stay at these head-quarters all the time necessary; otherwise, M. le Secrétaire, I should have to beg you to be good enough to facilitate my means of re-embarkation, so that I may, without more delay, give an account to my Government of the result of my mission.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 18 in No. 12.

Señor Caminos to Mr. Gould.

(Translation.)

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Paso Pucú, September* 9, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, under date of the 4th instant, you were pleased to address to me in answer to mine of the 3rd, and in which you express your regret to see that, in spite of the observations you considered it your duty to address through me, to his Excellency the Marshal, President of the Republic, he persists in considering that he is unable to make an exception in favour of Her Britannic Majesty's subjects, with regard to the position in which all foreigners in Paraguay are now placed, except the citizens of the neighbouring Republic of Bolivia, and confine yourself to re-establishing the sense of certain passages in your former notes, and give me some explanations respecting the difference which I observed with regret, between your verbal assurances and your note of the 1st of September.

In reply, I must state that, as you have accepted the humane concession of his

Excellency the Marshal President in favour of the English widows and their families, they have been brought from Asuncion to this camp, and are ready to be embarked on board Her Britannic Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel." The necessary facilities will be placed at your disposal whenever you may wish to name a day for your departure.

As regards the request you have thought proper to make, relative to the British subjects who are now in this camp, and whose number does not amount to half-a-dozen, I can only say they are voluntarily employed, either as surgeons or as engineers.

Having thus complied with your request (solicited), I fulfil the duty of expressing to you my thanks for the friendly sentiments (conceptos) you have manifested towards his Excellency the Marshal President of the Republic, and for the offer you have kindly made to represent faithfully to Her Britannic Majesty's Government the very exceptional circumstances which have placed his Excellency in the painful, but imperative necessity of not acceding to the demand which you were desired to address to the Government of the Republic.

I will not conclude without again expressing the hope that, taking into consideration the just motives of the refusal, it will be ratified, not only by the wisdom of Her Majesty's Council, but also by the impartial and upright judgment of her enlightened people.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LUIS CAMINOS.

Inclosure 19 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Head-Quarters, Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucú,
(Extract.) *September* 15, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant, reporting the negotiations I have carried on by your instructions to obtain the release of the British subjects forcibly detained in Paraguay by President Lopez, I have the honour to transmit herewith:—

1st. A list of the British widows and their families whom the Government of Paraguay has agreed to give up.

2nd. A list of the British subjects still remaining in Paraguay.

3rd. A list of the British subjects who have died in Paraguay since the commencement of the present war.

With regard to the above-mentioned widows, I have been compelled to take the engagement that they will be conveyed direct to England, and not allowed to land either in the River Plate or in Brazil. Two of them, Mrs. Trudgeon and Mrs. Ramos, state they are in distressed circumstances.

Many of the British subjects named in the second list are, I am positively assured, most anxious to leave Paraguay, and no longer bound by any contract with the Government.

Drs. Fox, Stewart, and Skinner, and Messrs. Thompson and Valpy, are the only British subjects retained in this camp at the present moment. I have provided them with certificates of British nationality, as they were without passports. I have likewise handed in to the Marquis of Caxias a list with their names, and he has kindly promised, in case of an attack, to take special measures for their protection. I will request Commander Michell to send a few medical comforts for their exclusive use from Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel," the cost of which I trust I may be permitted to include in the expenses of my Mission. I have warned Señor Caminos that the President has by his refusal assumed a great responsibility, and that I believe Her Majesty's Government will hold him accountable for whatever may happen to the British subjects he has thus unwarrantably detained.

I deeply regret not having been able fully to carry out the instructions of Her Majesty's Government on account of the many and great difficulties I have had to contend with.

I have no serious apprehension for the safety of the British subjects in the capital, who are, however, alarmed and have begged of me to request you to send up one of Her Majesty's vessels for their protection as soon as circumstances permit. They are in the same position as the French and American subjects and citizens, to whose Representatives the Paraguayan Government have likewise addressed a similar refusal.

Inclosure 20 in No. 12.

List of British Widows whom the Government of Paraguay have consented to give up.

Mrs. Grant, and one child.
Mrs. John Trudgeon, and one grown-up daughter.
Mrs. Ramos, two children and one infant.

Inclosure 21 in No. 12.

List of the British Subjects still remaining in Paraguay.

Dr. Stewart, wife and three children.
Dr. Skinner.
Dr. Fox.
Dr. Rhind and wife.
Mr. Mastermann, Apothecary.
Mr. Valpy, C.E.
Mr. Burrell, C.E.
Mr. Thompson, C.E.
Mr. Thwyte.
Mr. Marshall.
Mr. Hunter.
Mr. Nesbitt, wife and two children.
Mr. Taylor, wife and four children.
Mr. Moynihau, wife and two children.
Mr. Eden, and wife.
Mr. Thomas, wife and two children.
Mr. John Cambidge, and four children.
Mr. James Cambidge, wife and one child.
Mr. McCullock, wife and one child.
Mr. Wright, and two children.
Mr. Watts, and one child.
Mr. Laing.
Mr. George Thompson.
Mr. Hitchinbotham.
Mr. Westgarth.
Mr. Therby.
Mr. Smith.
Mr. Pattison.
Mr. Martin.
Mr. Porter.
Mr. Busby.
Mr. Thind.
Mr. Tranter.
Mr. Lumsden.
Mr. Goring.
Mr. Naylor.
Mr. Baxter.
Mr. John Trudgeon.
Mr. Crane, and child.
Mr. Retalick, wife and two children.
Mr. Miles, } Prisoners of War.
Mr. Foster, }
Mrs. Cuttler, and two children.
Jessie and William Charters, Ellster and George Smyth, Orphans supported partly by Paraguayan Government and partly by British residents.
Mr. Schutt, wife and child, supposed to be a British subject, or a naturalized British subject.
Mr. Stark, wife and family.

Inclosure 22 in No. 12.

List of British Subjects who have Died since the commencement of the present War.

Mr. Whytehead.
Mr. Grant, and infant son.
Mr. George Moore, Engineer.
Mr. Francis Spivey, and wife.
Mr. William Charters, and wife.
Mr. William Smythe.
Mr. John Trudgeon.
Mr. George Gibson.
Mr. John Maggs.
Mr. Alfred Howgate.
Mrs. Newton.
Mr. Watts, and son.
Mrs. Wright, and son.
Mrs. Cambidge.
Mr. Walmsley, and wife.
Mr. McGregor, coppersmith.
Mr. Rogers, boilermaker.
Two children of Mrs. Nesbitt.
One child of Mrs. Taylor.
Mr. Garten.
Mr. Cuttler, supposed to have been recently killed.
Messrs. Gibson and Thompson, were either killed or taken prisoners at the action of the Riachuelo.

Inclosure 23 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

(Extract.) *"Doterel," Curuzu, September* 16, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your information the copy of a note I addressed yesterday morning to Señor Caminos, requesting him to have the goodness to make the preconcerted signal for Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel" to proceed as soon as possible to Curupaity to receive me on board. I was led to take this decisive step as I no longer saw any advantage whatever in prolonging my stay in President Lopez's camp. The state of my health was also such as to necessitate an immediate change of air, and to cause serious alarm to the English medical men in the camp, from whom, at considerable risk to themselves, I experienced the greatest kindness.

To my surprise late in the afternoon, Lieutenant Commander Michell suddenly appeared, accompanied by three of the President's aides-de-camp. He informed mehe had been spending an hour alone with his Excellency, who had treated him with the most marked kindness and condescension, and made many inquiries about what was passing outside his camp. This was the first notice I received of the arrival of the gun-boat, although Curupaity is in telegraphic communication with the Paso Pucù. When Commander Michell had left me to return to the head-quarters, a horse was brought up by a soldier, but I refused to leave until the President should have signified in a becoming manner that I was at liberty to re-embark. Shortly afterwards two of his officers were sent to accompany me, and I then proceeded to Curupaity, where I was detained fully an hour waiting for Commander Michell and his party.

While there one or two shells were fired in that direction by the Brazilian iron-clads below Humaitá. Commander Michell was, I believe, covered with sand by the explosion of one of them. This mistake, unintentional on the part of the Brazilians, can only be attributed to the British ensign having for some reason or other been lowered by the Paraguayans from the flag-staff at Curupaity long before Commander Michell and I re-embarked. Owing to all these delays night had closed in before Her Majesty's gun-boat was able to return to her former position in the rear of the Brazilian squadron off Curuzu.

I lost no time in proceeding on board the Commodore's ship in order to give a copy of President Lopez's note with regard to the proposals of peace, which I had communicated to the allied Commanders-in-chief.

Inclosure 24 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Señor Caminos.

Quartier-Général de l'Armée Paraguay, Paso Pucú,
M. le Secrétaire, *le* 14 *Septembre,* 1867.

LA cannonière de Sa Majesté "Doterel" étant arrivée, ou sur le point d'arriver, à Curuzu pour me prendre à son bord, aussi que les trois veuves Anglaises et leurs familles au départ desquelles son Excellence M. le Maréchal Président a bien voulu consentir, je vous prie, M. le Secrétaire, d'avoir l'obligeance de me prévenir lorsqu'elles sera arrivée, et de faire prendre les mesures nécessaires afin que je puisse m'embarquer sans plus de perte de temps.

(Signé) G. F. GOULD.

(Translation.)

Head-Quarters of the Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucu,
M. le Secrétaire, *September* 14, 1867.

HER Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel" having arrived, or being on the point of arriving at Curuzu to take me on board, as well as the three English widows and their families to whose departure his Excellency the Marshal President has been pleased to consent, I beg you, M. le Secrétaire, to be so obliging as to give me notice of her arrival, and to cause the necessary measures to be taken to enable me to embark without further loss of time.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 25 in No. 12.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, October* 2, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with the engagement I had entered into with the Paraguayan Government, Her Majesty's gun-boat "Doterel" left Curuzu on the 16th in the morning with the women and children mentioned in my despatch of the 15th ultimo. Lieutenant-Commander Mitchell kindly accommodated them on deck as well as the very limited space at his disposal would permit.

On the following day the "Doterel" unfortunately grounded. She got off the next morning, but before long she struck on another sand-bank. After forty-eight hours of the most strenuous and unremitting exertions on the part of Commander Mitchell, the officers and crew, in addition to the assistance rendered on two different occasions by passing steamers, it was found that she had hardly moved from her original position, and that the sand had, owing to the action of the current, accumulated to such an extent, that there were barely five or six inches of water on one side of her.

Lieutenant-Commander Mitchell then represented to me he was already short of fresh provisions, and would not be able to procure any, as we were lying at a great distance from any town. The ship's stores were also nearly exhausted, owing to the length of the voyage. Moreover, he entertained serious doubts of being able to get the vessel off for some time at least, and advised me to place the women and children on board the first vessel that passed on her way down the river. Dr. Johnson, the assistant-surgeon of the "Doterel," likewise recommended their immediate removal, on the ground that they would be very much exposed on deck in case of bad weather, and informed me several of them were at the time under medical treatment.

Under these circumstances I had reluctantly to take upon myself the responsibility of breaking through the engagement previously referred to in this despatch, and I accepted the kind offer of Captain José Manuel Picanço da Costa, the Commander of the Imperial Brazilian troopship "Wassimon," to carry me and the other British subjects to Monte Video, where he expeeted to arrive on the 24th ultimo,

Although Captain da Costa had a number of sick and wounded on board, he stood by the "Doterel" a whole day, and made several ineffectual efforts to tow her off.

Her Majesty's gunboat is, I regret to repeat, very ill adapted for the navigation of the Parana, and totally unprovided with the necessary appliances for getting off the innumerable shifting sand-banks to be met throughout its course, as I have unfortunately had ample opportunities of observing.

Owing, however, to a further detention of upwards of three days on another sand-bank, and to a severe gale of wind, which forced Captain da Costa to anchor off the island of Martin Garcia for twenty-four hours, I only reached Monte Video on the 29th in the evening, just as the mail packet for England was steaming out of that port.

No. 13.

Mr Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 18.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, October* 10, 1867.

I BEG leave to inclose, for your Lordship's cognizance, an interesting Report on the state of affairs in Paraguay, drawn up by Mr. Gould.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Mr. Gould to Mr. Mathew.

Head-Quarters, Paraguayan Army, Paso Pucú,

(Extract.) *September* 10, 1867.

SINCE the commencement of this protracted war, but little, if any, reliable information has been received as to the actual position of this country. The allies themselves, strange to say, seem to be as much in the dark as the rest of the world. Though the opportunities of ascertaining the true state of affairs have been extremely limited since my arrival here, still I have succeeded in collecting information, which will, I venture to hope, be deemed of some interest by Her Majesty's Government.

The whole country is ruined, and all but depopulated. Everything is seized for the use of the Government. The cattle on most of the estates has entirely disappeared. All the horses and even the mares have been taken away. The slaves, of whom there were 40,000 or 50,000, have been emancipated—the males sent to the army and the females with other women forced to work in gangs for the Government. Many estates have been altogether abandoned. The scanty crops raised by the women are monopolized for the supply of the troops. The women have been obliged to part with all their jewels and gold ornaments, though this extreme measure has been called a patriotic offering on their part.

Three epidemics, measles, small pox, and cholera, besides privations of all sorts, have reduced the population of this unfortunate country by more than a third. It is variously estimated to have never exceeded 700,000 or 800,000; but on this point I have not been able to obtain any reliable data. The mortality among children has been dreadful, and both scurvy and itch are very prevalent. The trade with Bolivia is insignificant, owing to the almost insuperable difficulties of communication.

When the war first commenced, President Lopez was at the head of a fine army of nearly 100,000 men, and he had immense supplies of arms and ammunition which his father and he had been carefully accumulating for years previously. His fleet consisted, however, of only twelve or fifteen river steamers of light construction.

Since then he must have lost in one way or another, upwards of 100,000 men, for 80,000 have died of disease alone. Most of his steamers have been captured or destroyed, and he may yet have eight or nine, only two of which are, however, in a good serviceable state.

It is only owing to the dilatory manner of proceeding of the allies, and their want of energy, that he is still able to prolong his resistance. Had their fleet taken up in time a position between Paso de la Patria and Itapirù, after the surrender of a part of his troops at Uruguayana, none of the 25,000 men with whom he invaded the Argentine Province of Corrientes would have been able to recross the Parana into Paraguay. On the 24th of May, 1866, he was repulsed with such fearful loss that the allies might have entered his entrenched camp the next day with the greatest ease. It took him three days to reorganize any considerable force, as he himself acknowledges. His losses on that occasion amounted to between 12,000 and 15,000 men. On the 2nd of September, 1866, when the allies took Curuzu, had they marched at once on Curupaity they would easily have advanced with but comparatively slight resistance. They lost a fortnight, during which he strongly entrenched himself, and were eventually repulsed with immense slaughter. Again, when they advanced lately to Tuyucuè, he was not prepared to resist a determined attack. He has, however, since strengthened his works on that side. There they have remained stationary for more than six weeks, while, by pushing forward a few thousand men on their extreme right, they would entirely cut off his communications with the interior and very soon compel him to surrender at discretion, for he has no longer a sufficient force to venture upon a serious attack.

The allied forces now amount to 48,000 men in the field, and from 5,000 to 6,000 in hospital. Of these 45,000 are Brazilians, 7,000 or 8,000 Argentines, and about 1,000 Orientals. Since my last visit in April the Brazilian army has been rejoined by the 2nd Corps, which held Curuzu, and the 3rd under General Osario, which was at that time some where in the Missiones. Moreover, large reinforcements have arrived direct from Brazil, and the Imperial Government have engaged to send out 2,000 men per month to keep up the army to its present strength. President Mitre has also returned with a part of the forces lately employed in quelling the insurrection in the Argentine Provinces. They are fully supplied with every requisite for a campaign. Of the above amount fully 8,000 are cavalry, and well mounted, besides fresh horses are daily arriving in large numbers. The army is likewise provided with a great many field pieces.

The Brazilian iron-clad squadron consists of ten vessels, which easily forced their way past the batteries at Curupaity. There are, it seems, two deep water channels in front of these formidable works. The furthest from them is defended by three lines of stockades, to which torpedoes are attached. Admiral Ignacio, however, took the fleet up the nearest channel, and by shutting his ports, and keeping close under the cliffs on which the guns are mounted, avoided in a great measure their fire, as they could not be sufficiently depressed, and he thus lost but a few men. Only one of the iron-clads was disabled by a shot striking the condenser, and was exposed to a very heavy fire, until another vessel came to its assistance, and, lashed to its side, towed it up past the batteries.

On this occasion the Brazilians adopted an expedient to which they believe they

mainly owe the comparative impunity with which they forced this formidable position. Bags of sand were piled up both inside and outside the turrets and batteries of the vessels. Thus the force of the heavy steel pointed projectiles, fired almost point blank, was greatly diminished, and the men inside fully protected both from the splinters and from the fine heated dust to which the projectiles are often reduced on striking the iron plates, and which, in spite of every other precaution, even when the ports are closed, finds its way in and disables the men at the guns.

This squadron is at present stationed a little more than a mile below Humaità, into which its shells fall as well as into the rear of Curupaity. The communication with the squadron of wooden vessels, seven in number, stationed opposite Curuzu, and below Curupaity, is easily maintained by means of a road four miles long, through the Chaco, defended by three redoubts, and 1,400 men.

Thus the whole of the river front, or right of the Paraguayan camp is exposed to the fire of the fleet. Their centre faces the old position of the allied army at Tuzuti, which is very well entrenched, and held by General Viscount Porto Alegre with the 2nd Brazilian Army Corps, from 8,000 to 10,000 strong. The 1st and 3rd Brazilian Corps, with the Argentine forces, occupy the positions of Tuyucuè, which is likewise being covered with formidable earth works, and is parallel with the Paraguayan left. The communications between these two great divisions of the allied army are easily kept up, though the distance is nearly ten miles. The road passes in some places close to the Paraguayan lines, and is guarded by pickets of cavalry, and will soon be further protected by several small field works. The Brazilian cavalry are at San Solano, on the extreme right of the allies, and consequently nearer the River Paraguay above Humaità. However, though they now and then advance in the direction of the river, and cut the telegraph wires on the old high road to Asuncion, there still remains a large open space through which, by a new road, the Paraguayan army is yet able to draw its supplies. I believe President Lopez, unknown to the allies, has even got a second telegraph line, which he makes use of whenever the other is interrupted.

The Paraguayan forces amount altogether to about 20,000 men, of these 10,000 or 12,000, at most, are good troops, the rest are mere boys from 12 to 14 years of age, old men and cripples, besides from 2,000 to 3,000 sick and wounded. The men are worn out with exposure, fatigue, and privations. They are actually dropping down from inanition. They have been reduced for the last six months to meat alone, and that of a very inferior quality. They may once in a way get a little Indian corn, but that mandioc, and especially salt are so very scarce, they are, I fully believe only served out to the sick. In the whole camp there is absolutely nothing for sale. There must be, judging from what I saw, a great scarcity of drugs and medicines, if not a total want of them for the sick, whose number is rapidly increasing. Few recover, as may naturally be expected under such circumstances. Cholera and small-pox, which exist to a certain extent in the allied camp, are spreading very much among the Paraguayans. The horses have nearly all died off, and the few hundreds that yet remain are so weak and emaciated, they can scarcely carry their riders. The last 800 or 900 mares in the whole country have however just been brought in. The draught oxen are in a dreadful state, and cannot last much longer. The cattle in the camp, some 15,000 or 20,000 head are dying very fast for want of pasturage. Fresh cattle are occasionally brought in at night; but they are also generally in poor condition. Large herds are said to be kept near Humaità in some marshy place in the river, which is very difficult of access to the allies. I entertain serious doubts of their existence, and I do not see how they can eventually escape falling into the enemy's hands if they are beyond the line of trenches. The few steamers still plying between the capital and the camp can only land their cargoes at night as they have to come within the range of the Brazilian iron-clads below Humaità. Many of the soldiers are in a state bordering on nudity, having only a piece of tanned leather round their loins, a ragged shirt, and a poncho made of vegetable fibre. They all wear clumsy looking leather caps. A great part of them are still armed with flint guns, though in the course of the war many Minié rifles have been captured from the allies.

The Paraguayans are a fine, brave, hardy, patient, and obedient race of men; but they are beginning to be dispirited, judging from what I have seen on the one side, and the accounts I have heard on the other. They neither give nor accept quarter, even when wounded. Paraguayan wounded have been seen, when lying on the field almost in the agonies of death, to stab any wounded enemy within their reach. Others, again, specially of late, throw themselves on the ground at the approach of the foe without offering the slightest resistance, but refuse pertinaciously to surrender, and have to be run through where they lie.

When once made prisoners the spell seems to be at once broken; and though they are allowed to range about the allied camp, none of them attempt to escape; and many volunteer, without the slightest compunction, to fight against their own countrymen. They are not allowed to enlist into the Brazilian army; but their services are at once accepted by the Argentine and Oriental Commanders.

The lines covering the entrenched camp, within which, owing to the apathy of the allies, the Paraguayan army still finds shelter, extend over nearly fifteen miles. Humaitá may be considered the vertex of an irregular triangle, the other two angles being Curupaity and the salient but strongly-fortified point, called the "Angulo," opposite the left of the position of Tuyucué. The earthworks are very high, almost perpendicular, protected by one and sometimes two deep ditches, in some places also by *trous de loup* and palisades; and, finally, the approach to them is rendered still more difficult by deep marshes extending to a considerable distance in front of them. The weakest point is admitted to be between the angle and another bastion, named the "Espinilla," opposite Tuyucué. The ground there is much firmer than elsewhere, as I had two opportunities of observing personally.

The riverside batteries of Humaità at present mount only forty-six guns, namely, one 80-pounder, four 68-pounders, eight 32-pounders; the rest are of different calibres. The battery of Curupaïti towards the river mounts thirty 32-pounders. Total on the right, 76 guns.

The centre is defended by about 100 guns.

On the left there are 117 guns, including four 68-pounders, one 40-pounder rifled Whitworth, one 13-inch mortar, fourteen 32-pounders, and many rifled 12-pounders. Humaità, on the land side, is protected by three lines of earthworks, on the innermost of which 87 guns are mounted. Total on the left, 204 guns. The grand total is, therefore, 380 guns.

The garrison of Humaitá consists of five battalions, of which three are composed of old soldiers, one of boys and convalescents, and one of wounded men returned to duty. There are besides these the artillery men, and two cavalry regiments stationed at a short distance outside the lines—about 3,000 men. 6,000 men are stationed along the left from Humaità to the angle, and 5,000 from thence to Curupaiti and Humaità, or along the centre and right. The reserves, consisting of three battalions of infantry, and four or five weak dismounted cavalry regiments, numbering altogether from 2,000 to 2,500 men, are stationed at Paso Pucù, the most central position in the camp, and President Lopez's head quarters. Among all these troops there are probably not over 10,000 able-bodied men.

General Resguin is the second in command under the President. General Barrios commands the left, General Brugez the centre, and Colonel Allen the right, and Colonel Avelino Cabral the garrison of Humaità. There is no want of ammunition, I believe, though I doubt whether powder is made in the country.

No. 14.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 20, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th ultimo, reporting the failure of Mr. Gould's endeavours to obtain permission for British subjects in Paraguay to leave the country; and I have to instruct you to convey to Mr. Gould my approval of the manner in which he executed the duty entrusted to him in this respect.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 15.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 20, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th ultimo, inclosing a Report drawn up by Mr. Gould on the state of affairs in Paraguay, and I have to instruct you to inform Mr. Gould that his Report has been read with great interest by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 16.

Mr. Lettsom to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 5.)

My Lord, *Monte Video, October* 3, 1867.

ON the evening of the 29th September, Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation at Buenos Ayres, arrived here in the Brazilian frigate "Wassimon," on board of which vessel were the English women and their children, whom he had brought down from Paraguay.

As soon as Mr. Gould made me acquainted with their arrival I addressed to Captain Fellowes, the Senior Officer, the note of which a copy is inclosed.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of the answer of Captain Fellowes, from which it will be seen that the women and their children were landed on the following morning.

Mr. Gould having informed me that the Commander of the "Wassimon," Captain José Manuel Picanço da Costa, had behaved in the most kind and considerate manner to the females in question and to himself, I held it to be proper to go on board the "Wassimon," to thank that officer for his attentions.

I accordingly paid him an official visit, accompanied by Mr. Gould.

Captain José Manuel Picanço da Costa was not on board his frigate, I, however, saw the officer in command, to whom I explained the object of my visit.

Captain da Costa called on me the next day to thank me for the manner in which, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, I had recognized his services, which, he added, he had only been too happy to afford.

It is extremely grateful to me to observe how highly even my thanks were appreciated by the Brazilian commander, thus confirming my conviction that such expressions tend most materially to the maintenance of good feeling.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Mr. Lettsom to Captain Fellowes.

Sir, *Monte Video, September* 29, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to request you to let the bearer, Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation at Buenos Ayres, have the boats that are necessary to bring on shore from the Brazilian Transport that arrived this evening, the three English women and their children whom he has brought down from Paraguay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Captain Fellowes to Mr. Lettsom.

Sir, "*Dryad*," *Monte Video, September* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th instant, requesting me to let Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Secretary of Legation at Buenos Ayres, have boats to land English women and children, and I have to inform you that your request has been complied with.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. H. B. FELLOWES.

No. 17.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Pakenham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 6, 1867.

HER Majesty's Charge d'Affaires to the Republic of Uruguay has reported to me the arrival of Mr. Gould at Monte Video, in the Brazilian frigate "Wassimon," as well as of the English women and children whom he had brought down from Paraguay; and

I have to instruct you to convey to the Brazilian Government the thanks of that of Her Majesty for the kindness shown to those poor people by the Commander of the Brazilian frigate.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 18.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 20.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, November* 11, 1867.

IN the earlier part of October the cholera broke out again in the armies in Paraguay, but appears to have entirely subsided at the expiration of less than three weeks; the allies lost between 200 and 300 men, and if the reports of deserters can be credited, its ravages were far more serious in the Paraguayan ranks.

General Mitre's plan of inclosing his opponents within a line of entrenchments, has been slowly but steadily carried out, notwithstanding the most determined efforts on their part. The eldest son of President Lopez, a lad about fifteen years of age, is said to have been killed in one of the many skirmishes that have taken place.

The published report of the allied Commander-in-chief states that the battery on the bank of the Paraguay above Humaità, completely commands the passage of the river, and cuts off that channel of communication with Asuncion.

On the 3rd instant the Paraguayans made a desperate attack in force upon the allied quarters at Tuyuti; 8,000 or 9,000 men having, it would appear, been suffered by carelessness or treachery to approach close to the lines at daybreak, without any alarm having been given, carried all before them, penetrated into the centre of the camp, and took several cannon as well as a large number of prisoners. They commenced however to pillage the wooden sheds of the suttlers and purveyors, which were set on fire in the hand to hand melée, and the Viscount Porto Alegre, who had been compelled, after a most gallant defence, to concentrate his force within entrenchments, took immediate advantage of the confusion that ensued to renew the fight, and having been opportunely reinforced by a strong body of cavalry under the Argentine General Hornos, succeeded in driving out the foe with immense loss.

The reports, officially given, states the Paraguayan killed at upwards of 2,000, and admit the allied loss between killed and wounded to have been nearly 800.

If the returns published can be relied upon, the Paraguayan forces have been diminished since the 1st of October by more than 5,000 men.

No. 19.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 20.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, November* 12, 1867.

AFTER I had transmitted to your Lordship on the 10th ultimo Mr. Gould's account of the position of Her Majesty's subjects in Paraguay, I received a distressing communication from a brother of Dr. Stewart.

Although I was convinced that no measures could be adopted to vindicate the rights of neutrals, so grossly violated by President Lopez in their case, I deemed it right to take the opinion of the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's Forces on this station, who had meanwhile arrived at Monte Video, and I informed him at the same time, that I wished to send up one of Her Majesty's gunboats to Curupaity, which might at least, I conceived, when thus within sight of the Paraguayan outposts, give them some kind of moral protection, and afford a safe refuge to any who might find the means of escaping at a moment of peril from the camp.

As late events appear to render any danger to which British subjects there may be exposed more imminent, I have decided, after much consideration, on addressing a further, though guarded, note to Señor Berges, the Paraguayan Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I find that Señor Berges has recently answered a despatch from M. Noel, the Minister of France, who is in the same position as I am with respect to his letters of credence, and I apprehend, therefore, that he cannot refuse to accept my communica-

tions, on the ground of their non-presentation, as he intimated to Mr. Gould, especially if conveyed in a formal manner.

I venture to entertain the hope, that, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, this course will meet your Lordship's approval.

No. 20.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 21, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres, reporting the circumstances under which he requested the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's Naval Forces on that station to send one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to Curupaity; and I am to request that, in laying Mr. Mathew's despatch before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty for their consideration, you will direct the attention of their Lordships to the position of British subjects in Paraguay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 21.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received December* 23.)

Sir, *Admiralty, December* 23, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 21st instant, drawing attention to the position of British subjects in Paraguay, and a requisition made by Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres for one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to be sent to Curupaity, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Ramsay, dated the 26th October, with its inclosures in original, pointing out the difficulties and expense attending the sending a gun-boat up the Paraguay.

Although my Lords consider that the passage-steamers might be used for the purpose of communicating with Paraguay, as the gun-boats are not adapted for the purpose, directions will be sent to Rear-Admiral Ramsay by the French mail of this evening, to send a gun-boat to Curupaity as requested.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

Rear-Admiral Ramsay to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Naccissus*," *at Monte Video, October* 26, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 7th June last, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a Report of the proceedings of the "Doterel" during her visit to Paraguay, where she was dispatched with Mr. Gould, Secretary of Legation, to endeavour to obtain the release of certain British subjects alleged to be detained there, as reported in my letter of the 5th August last.

It appears that Mr. Gould failed in obtaining the consent of the Paraguayan Government to the Englishmen quitting the country, but he was permitted to take some English widows and children with him, who were accordingly brought away in the "Doterel."

Mr. Mathew, Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres, has requested my opinion as to the possibility of taking any further steps in the matter; and I have informed him that as I consider the instructions of Her Majesty's Secretary of State have been fully carried out, nothing further should be done without reference to the Government at home.

The "Doterel" having sustained some injuries from her grounding in the Paranà, I detained her on her return, for an examination and an inquiry; and in the meanwhile I ad placed the "Linnet" at Mr. Mathew's disposal, for any further service that might

be required in Paraguay; but after reviewing the evidence and Report of the Court of Inquiry, held into the grounding of the "Doterel," and learning the danger of navigating the rivers to Paraguay at this season of the year when the river is low and still falling, with numbers of anchors and sunken wrecks in various places, all tending to raise and shift the shoals and sand-banks, I considered it my duty not to allow the "Linnet" to proceed to Paraguay for the present, without further instructions from their Lordships.

The "Linnet," under favourable circumstances, can only average six knots under steam, and is very unsuited for service in such rivers as the Paranà.

Passage-steamers of fast speed and light draught are constantly running from Buenos Ayres to Rosario, Corrientes, and Itapiru. Both Mr. Gould and his predecessor visited the Brazilian camp at the latter place by those means some months previously. The passage money up and down is about 50*l.*, whereas the expenses of the "Doterel" conveying Mr. Gould, have been about 800*l.*, besides the damages sustained by the vessel and the loss of anchors and hawsers.

The "Doterel" had a very narrow escape from being left aground in the river on the last occasion for some length of time, the pilot on board informing the Commander that it was useless attempting to get her afloat until the river rose after January next; and I beg to submit to the notice of their Lordships, that Lieutenant, John B. Michell, Mr. W. C. Parker, navigating Sub-Lieutenant, and the crew of the "Doterel," deserve the greatest praise for their perseverance and energy.

After three days and nights hard work, they succeeded in getting her afloat, although a sand-bank had formed against the ship's side.

I beg to inform their Lordships that Itapiru is a part of Paraguay, in possession of the Brazilians, and is the head-quarters of General Baron Porto Alegre, where Mr. Gould landed from the "Doterel" to communicate with the Commander-in-chief of the allied army to obtain permission to pass through the lines.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEO. RAMSAY.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Lieutenant Commander Michell to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *"Doterel," Monte Video, September* 30, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in obedience to your orders, I placed myself in communication with his Excellency the British Minister at Buenos Ayres on the 7th of July, the day of my arrival at that port.

In accordance with a request from him, on the 26th of July, having 60 tons of coal on board, I engaged a pilot for Asuncion, embarked two bags of mails, with many cases, for the American Minister in Paraguay; and Mr. Gould, Secretary of Legation, coming on board the same evening, the "Doterel" proceeded up the River Parana, arriving at Rosario on the 30th.

Owing to a gale of wind from the northward, I was unable to coal or proceed until the morning of 1st August; the weather then moderating, I took in 25 tons of coal from the English brig "Albion" (this completed to 56 tons, 18 of which were on deck), and proceeded.

At Rosario I received a request from Mr. Gould to go on night and day if possible. In compliance with this request, a second pilot was engaged in the presence of the Consul.

On the 7th of August, the ship took the ground in Pindoti Pass, and remained two hours on shore. At 10 A.M., the Buenos Ayrean steamer "Provedor" came to our assistance, and towed us off at 10.15 A.M. I proceeded immediately, arriving at Corrientes on the afternoon of the 10th.

The next morning I weighed at daylight, and proceeded to Itapiru, the nearest port to the head-quarters of the allied army, arriving there at 1 P.M. Mr. Gould and myself immediately went to Tuyuti, the head-quarters of Baron Porto Alegre (about a league from Itapiru), requesting from him horses and an escort to go to the head-quarters of President Mitre and General Caxias, the Commanders-in-chief of the allied armies.

On the morning of the 14th, the Secretary of Legation and myself proceeded thither through the enemy's country with a strong escort of infantry and cavalry, a ride of about three leagues, passing the place where, the previous morning, the enemy had captured the convoy of the allies. We arrived the same day, and obtained permission

to send, by a flag of truce, Mr. Gould's despatch to President Lopez, requesting that the "Doterel" might proceed to Asuncion for the liberation of British subjects.

The next morning this despatch was sent, and received in the Paraguayan lines, and on the evening of the 17th an answer was returned, saying the "Doterel" could not, on account of operations and obstructions in the river, pass above Curupaity, but that just below that place and above the Brazilian wooden ships an officer would be ready to receive us. The next morning I weighed at daylight, and proceeded up the River Paraguay, anchoring at 12.30 P.M., near the "Princeza de Joinville," the flag of the Commodore commanding at Curuzu (about three miles below Curupaity).

After communicating with him, he made a signal to his ships to cease firing. I then weighed, and passing the Brazilian vessels, went up to a position pointed out by a Paraguayan officer who came on board, and anchored close to the shore near Curupaity.

The Secretary of Legation, with the mails and cases for the American Minister at Asuncion, were landed at 3 P.M. The "Doterel" returned and anchored astern of the Brazilian Commodore, whose ships then continued to fire shells at the shore.

Mr. Gould was provided with an English ensign, and I had agreed with him to remain four clear days in the river, and if before that time the ensign was not hoisted at Curupaity as a signal that he wished to embark, I should proceed to Corrientes to coal, and remain there, as the River Paraguay was very sickly.

The Commodore had daily steamers to Corrientes, and promised to send a steamer immediately the English flag was hoisted. During these four days the Commodore was exceedingly kind, sending us daily fresh beef and bread, for which he declined taking any payment.

On the 22nd of August, I returned to Corrientes, where 8 tons of coal were taken on board. After lying there twenty-two days, I heard that the Secretary of Legation was at the head-quarters of the allied army; therefore on the 13th September I went up to Itapiru in the hospital steamer, intending to see him, but on my arrival there I received a letter from him requesting the "Doterel" would proceed immediately to the same place he had landed at near Curupaity, to embark himself, three widows, and five children, all being British subjects. I returned at once to Corrientes, and went the next day up the River Paraguay, but was detained for the night by the blockading squadron off Cenito.

On the morning of the 15th I weighed, and proceeded to Curuzu, anchoring near and communicating with the Brazilian Commodore.

At noon the English ensign was hoisted at Curupaity, and the ships ceasing to fire, the "Doterel" passed up and anchored near the forts. At the request of President Mitre I had embarked at Corrientes 41 cases for the American Minister at Asuncion; these were landed; and Mr. Gould, with four women and four children, was embarked.

The "Doterel" weighed and passed down the river again, and anchored for the night near the Commodore's ship at 8.10 P.M. The next morning I weighed and proceeded down the river.

I regret to state that on the 17th, whilst going about five knots over the ground, Her Majesty's gun-boat under my command took the ground on a sand bank in Bella Vista Pass, and remained there from 11.15 A.M. till 3·55 P.M. By shifting the weights on board, and laying out two anchors, the ship was hove off without sustaining any injury. The English steamer "Cosmos," coming to our assistance, also grounded, but I succeeded in towing her off the next morning, the 18th, and went on down the river. A schooner was aground in the same place, and owing to the late unusually low state of the river there are many vessels ashore in all parts.

On the morning of the 19th the "Doterel" again grounded in Paso Patil. The Brazilian transports "Dezaseis de Aveil" and "Alice" came to our assistance, but could not move the ship. The stream anchor was laid out on port bow, and being hove on it came home.

It was laid out next morning on port quarter with sixty fathoms of chain, and kept hove taut; guns and shot moved forward.

On the 21st the Brazilian transport "Wassimon" came to our assistance, twice carrying away her hawsers; and as there appeared but little chance of our getting off for many days, Mr. Gould, Secretary of Legation, with the women and children, were kindly taken on board for passage to Monte Video, where he hoped to save the English mail.

At 3 A.M. on the 22nd, the sand breaking away from our starboard side, the ship was hove off without assistance.

The officers and men had been working three days and nights with great

perseverance and energy, owing to the rapid current, laying out anchors up stseam, and getting on board cables from the three steamers, was attended with much labour and danger.

The "Wassimon" went on down the river at 5.30, and the "Doterel" at 7·30.

At 10 A.M. I observed the "Wassimon" ashore in Talar Pass. I anchored near her and offered help which the captain gratefully declined; I therefore weighed and proceeded, arriving at Parana on the evening of the 23rd.

Next morning 20 tons of coal were taken on board, and the "Doterel" went on down the river arriving off Rosario on the 25th.

At daylight on the 26th I weighed and proceeded, arriving at the inner anchorage of Buenos Ayres on the 28th. I communicated with his Excellency Mr. B. Mathew, C.B., and left the next morning for Monte Video, arriving here on the morning of the 30th.

The Secretary of Legation with the British subjects had arrived in Monte Video the previous day in a Brazilian transport.

Lieutenant and Commander W. G. Scott joined the "Doterel" in the afternoon; and I relieved Lieutenant Haye in the "Spider."

At Curupaity, whilst waiting for Mr. Gould and the British subjects, I had the honour of being presented to President Lopez, who received me most kindly, showing me from a high position, with a powerful spy-glass, the whole of his lines and trenches at Curupaity, which are of great strength and, I believe, impregnable to the allies.

The troops appeared in good health and spirits, and are an extraordinarily fine race of men. They do not suffer half the hardships that are reported. Large quantities of cattle and sheep were in the camps.

I am informed that on the passage of the iron-clads under fire of Curupaity, the enemy's shots repeatedly broke up on striking the iron plates, and that many men were wounded, and their clothes burnt by molten iron like large drops of rain. The ships passed the batteries with their ports closed, and sand bags placed round them.

The navigation of the Rivers Paraguay and Parana is at present attended with great difficulties, as all the best pilots have been engaged by the Brazilians for their numerous men-of-war and transports; added to which the river is at its lowest from July to December.

Sailing vessels and steamers ashore in all parts of the river were passed on our way up and down; five steamers were seen on shore between Corrientes and Parana.

I deem it my duty here to mention the great zeal and attention shown by Mr. Parker, Navigating Sub-Lieutenant, during the navigation in the Rivers Parana and Paraguay by day and night.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. MICHELL.

No. 22.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January* 6, 1868.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 12th of November, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from the Board of Admiralty to Rear Admiral Ramsay, instructing him to send one of the gun-boats under his orders to Curupaity.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

Inclosure in No. 22.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *Admiralty, December* 23, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 26th October, respecting the proceedings of the "Doterel" whilst conveying Mr. Gould on a Mission up the Paraguay, and stating the reasons which have induced you to decline compliance with the request of Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres to send another gun-boat up the river for the protection of British interests, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign

Affairs has requested that a gun-boat may be sent to Curupaity; and I am to signify their direction to you to meet the wishes of Lord Stanley, by sending one of the gun-boats under your orders on the service which is required.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 23.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 14, 1868.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, November 25, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a letter I have addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay, in pursuance of the intention communicated to your Lordship by my despatch of the 12th instant.

M. Ugarte informs me that the Vice-President will request General Mitre to transmit my letter to the Paraguayan camp by a flag of truce.

No further occurrences of importance have been reported from the seat of war since the departure of the last mail for Europe.

President Lopez is, however, stated to have withdrawn his diminished forces within his second line of entrenchments, and the information derived from deserters leads to the belief that he intends to endeavour to escape from his present position either by means of another sudden attack upon some point of the allied lines, or by crossing the river opposite Humaitá, and making his way through the wilderness of the Chaco until enabled to recross and to gain the road to Asuncion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure in No. 23.

Mr. Mathew to Señor Berges.

M. le Ministre, *Buenos Ayres, November 18, 1867.*

I INSTRUCTED Mr. Gould, on his departure for Paraguay, to request your Excellency would convey to his Excellency the President the expression of my regret that the lamentable state of war still existing compelled me, like my colleague the Minister of France, to delay to present to his Excellency the letter of the Queen, my Sovereign, accrediting me to be Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Paraguay.

I felt nevertheless assured that the Mission with which Mr. Gould was charged by the special commands of Her Majesty's Government (who have, I believe, freely communicated with the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic in England), would insure him a suitable reception, and I could not doubt that the request of which he was the bearer would have been readily acceded to by his Excellency the President.

It was, therefore, with sentiments of profound regret that I have found myself under the necessity of informing Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that his Excellency the President of Paraguay has refused to permit the British subjects, who might desire to leave that country, to embark in the vessel sent for their reception, and has rejected the subsequent application that Mr. Gould was led, by the friendly desire of preventing the present complications, to make, that those among them who were in the Paraguayan camp should be allowed to retire to Asuncion.

This intimation will be received with painful surprise by Her Majesty's Government.

I cannot, however, M. le Ministre, but entertain the belief that some misconception has existed both with regard to the nature of the application addressed by my Government to the Government of Paraguay and to the position of British subjects in that country; and I am, therefore, induced to beg your Excellency will bring the subject again to the serious consideration of his Excellency the President.

The detention of British subjects would be, under the circumstances existing, a clear violation of international comity, and of the rights of neutrals as recognized by all nations. His Excellency the President and his Government would further render themselves responsible for their safety and for all injury caused by the compulsion practised towards them. I feel, therefore, persuaded that his Excellency the President

will, upon a more explanatory representation of the matter, be led, by his regard for the comity of nations and by his high sense of justice, to remove any of Her Majesty's subjects, now in his Excellency's camp or fleet, from the scene of war, and afford to all of them who may desire to leave Paraguay such facilities as they may need for that object.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 24.

Mr. Pakenham to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 14, 1868.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, December 9, 1867.*

THE allies appear to be steadily pursuing their plan of operations in Paraguay in endeavouring to cut off President Lopez from his supplies, both of men and of means of subsistence. Batteries appear to have been erected by them above the entrenched position of Humaitá, which prevent the approach of any Paraguayan vessel above the size of a canoe; and President Lopez would already seem straitened for provisions, for, on the 3rd of November a most desperate sortie was made by a column of about 8,000 Paraguayan troops on the Argentine position, which they appear to have taken completely by surprise.

The object of this sortie appears to have been the total destruction of the munitions of war, stores, and forage of the allies, and it is probable it would have been completely attained, had the Paraguayans only acted with that remarkable obedience (or obstinacy) for which they have become so renowned, and had they simply contented themselves with carrying fire and sword through the Commissariat and Ordnance camps of the allies: whereas they broke through all discipline or obedience to their leaders, and burnt and plundered on all sides indiscriminately, and, therefore, incompletely.

Time was thus given for the arrival of a large Brazilian force, which, in conjunction with some Argentine cavalry, fell upon the rabble of marauders in the midst of their orgies, and put them to the rout with immense loss.

The Brazilian force appears to have conducted itself in the most distinguished manner, officers and men alike; the Brazilian Commanding Officer, the Viscount do Porto Alégre, himself wounded, made himself especially conspicuous by his energy and personal disregard of danger.

The Paraguayan loss, in dead alone, is set down at about 3,000; that of the allies is not so heavy, though serious. The Paraguayan army has also been lately losing small detachments, varying in number from 500 to 3,000 men, in different engagements in the neighbourhood of the entrenched camp of Humaitá, which appears to be of such a size and construction as to preclude the allies from forming a complete investment of it, or from preventing President Lopez from drawing a certain quantity of supplies, small, it is true, from the other bank of the Paraguay.

It is difficult to conceive what may be the intentions of President Lopez as to the future; he may, it is said, at any moment sally forth from Humaitá and gain the interior of the country, and thence set up a guerilla warfare; he may also cross the River Paraguay to the wilderness called the "Gran Chaco," and thence make his way to Bolivia; or he may stay in his present position and abide by the chances of war.

A curious incident connected with the recent engagement mentioned above is, that the vanquished seized, and were able to carry off, several pieces of artillery belonging to the victors, a proceeding unusual, I believe, in modern military annals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. PAKENHAM.

No. 25.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Mathew.

Sir, *Foreign Office, January 17, 1868.*

I HAVE to state to you that I approve the letter, copy of which is inclosed in your despatch of the 25th of November, which you have addressed to the Paraguayan Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the position of British subjects in that Republic, and the refusal of the President to allow them to leave that country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

TEATRO DE LA GUERRA EN EL PARAGUAY.

TOMADO DESDE EL GLOBO.

THE SEAT OF WAR IN PARAGUAY.

TAKEN FROM THE BALLOON

Escala de 0 1 a legua 2

Scale 0 1 league 2

Paraguayan Fortifications
Position of Gen.l Porto Alegre 2nd Division of Allies
1st Division of Allies, under Generals Mitre & Caxias.

Present position
Roads
Place where Allies disembarked
Present Road from Tuyuty to Tuyu Cué

Fortificaciones paraguayas.
Posicion del Ejército Aliado 2.° Cuerpo, General Porto Alegre.
Camino tomado por el 1.° Cuerpo del Ejército bajo el mando de los Generales Mitre y Caxias.
Posicion actual
Caminos.
A *Punto de desembarco del Ejercito Aliado.*
Camino de comunicacion actual desde Tuyuty á Tuyu Cué.

ARROYO HONDO
Puente
Paso
Para la Villa del Pilar
ESTERO HONDO
Camino para Villa del Pilar 4½ leguas
ENCORAZADOS BRASILEROS
CADENA
Riachelo de Oro
Baterias
Humaitá
Curuzú Cañoneras
Curuzú
Estero Formoso
Paraguayo
E.st San Solano
Serapio Sidra
E. Ves Hermosa
E. President Lopez
Britos
is somewhere here about
TUYUTY
Telégrafo
Paso Pacú
ESTERO
Tuyu Cué
Negrete
IX Céspedes
E. Carlos Castilla
Paso Pirís
JAS
Tio Domingo
P. Gonzalez
Laguna Piris
BELLACO
GRAN CHACO
PARAGUAY
RIO
ISLA ATAJO
Cerrito
Itapirú
RIO PARANA
CORRIENTES
Para Itati

SECCION DEL RIO PARAGUAY.

Donde se halle Humaitá y operan los encorazados brasileros.

SECTION OF THE RIVER PARAGUAY.

Where Humaitá is situated and where the Brasilian Ironclads are operating

1. *Iglesia de Humaitá.*
2. *Cuarteles.*
3. *Baterias.*
4. *Bateria Lóndres.*
5. *Cadena.*
6. *Escuadra paraguaya.*
7. *Escuadra brasilera.*
8. *Bosques y terrenos anegadizos.*
9. *Márjen del Chaco.*
10. *Chatas.*

1. *Humaitá Church.*
2. *Barracks.*
3. *Batteries.*
4. *London Battery.*
5. *Chain.*
6. *Paraguayan Squadron.*
7. *Brazilian Squadron.*
8. *Woods & lands liable to be flooded*
9. *Banks of the Chaco*
10. *Flat bottomed Boats*

N.B. Wherever the word "Estero" occurs the ground is marshy.

TEATRO DE LA GUERRA EN EL PARAGUAY.

TOMADO DESDE EL GLOBO.

THE SEAT OF WAR IN PARAGUAY.

TAKEN FROM THE BALLOON

Escala de 0 1 a legua 2

Scale 0 1 league 2

Paraguayan Fortifications
Position of Gen.l Porto Alegre 2nd Division of Allies
1st Division of Allies, under Generals Mitre & Caxias.

Present position
Roads
Place where Allies disembarked
Present Road from Tuyuty to Tuyu Cué

Fortificaciones paraguayas.
Posicion del Ejército Aliado 2.° Cuerpo, General Porto Alegre.
Camino tomado por el 1.° Cuerpo del Ejército bajo el mando de los Generales Mitre y Caxias.
Posicion actual
Caminos.
A *Punto de desembarco del Ejercito Aliado.*
Camino de comunicacion actual desde Tuyuty á Tuyu Cué.

ARROYO HONDO
Para la Villa del Pilar
Paso Puente
ESTERO HONDO
Camino para Villa del Pilar 4½ leguas
ENCORAZADOS BRASILEROS
CADENA
Reducto de Oro
Baterias
Humaitá
Curuzú Cuneras
Curuzú
Est. San Solano
Estero Formosos
Serapio Silva
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TUYUTY
Paraguayo
E. President Lopez Britos is somewhere here about
ESTERO
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IX Céspedes
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GRAN CHAGO
PARAGUAY
ISLA ATAJO
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Cerrito
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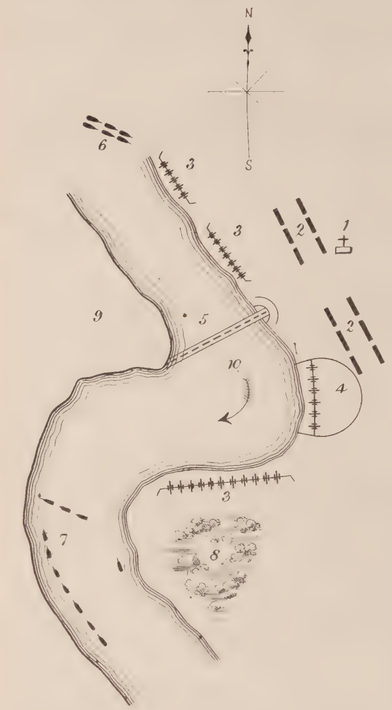
Itapirú
RIO PARANA
Para Itati
CORRIENTES

SECCION DEL RIO PARAGUAY.

Donde se halle Humaitá y operan los encorazados brasileros.

SECTION OF THE RIVER PARAGUAY.

Where Humaitá is situated and where the Brasilian Ironclads are operating



1. *Iglesia de Humaitá.*
2. *Cuarteles.*
3. *Baterias.*
4. *Bateria Lóndres.*
5. *Cadena.*
6. *Escuadra paraguaya.*
7. *Escuadra brasilera.*
8. *Bosques y terrenos anegadizos.*
9. *Márjen del Chaco.*
10. *Chatas.*

1. *Humaitá Church.*
2. *Barracks.*
3. *Batteries.*
4. *London Battery.*
5. *Chain.*
6. *Paraguayan Squadron.*
7. *Brazilian Squadron.*
8. *Woods & lands liable to be flooded*
9. *Banks of the Chaco*
10. *Flat bottomed Boats*

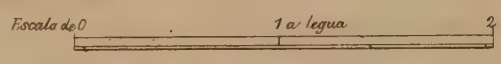
N.B. Wherever the word "Estero" occurs the ground is marshy.

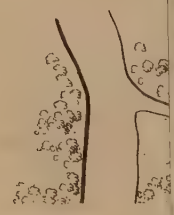
TEATRO DE LA GUERRA EN EL PARAGUAY.

TOMADO DESDE EL GLOBO.

THE SEAT OF WAR IN PARAGUAY.

TAKEN FROM THE BALLOON





I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, with the necessary translations, a printed copy of a map recently published here, purporting to represent the position of the allies and of the Paraguayans, as seen from the balloon which the Brazilians a short time since used for reconnoitring.

I cannot say that the map is correct in all its details, but it may be assumed the position of the allies is therein given as favourably as possible.

It will be observed on consulting the map that the body of the allied army has not yet advanced fifteen miles into the enemy's territory, upon which they disembarked. however, more than twenty months ago.

A telegram from Buenos Ayres announces to-day that President Lopez has withdrawn a considerable force and a large number of cannon from Humaitá, and that he is reported to be preparing to move from Paso Pucu (near where I have marked the map with a red spot) towards Assumption.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Sketch of the Seat of War in Paraguay, taken from a Balloon.

No. 29.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 26*, 1868.

THE Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires called upon me a few days ago, to present a letter from his Government accrediting him in that capacity; and I took the opportunity of his visit to request him to call the serious attention of his Government to the continued detention against their will, in Paraguay, of numerous British subjects.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

RIVER PLATE.

No. 1. (1868.)

CORRESPONDENCE respecting Hostilities in the River Plate.

In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament in 1867: "River Plate, No. 2 (1867)."

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

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CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

HOSTILITIES

IN THE

RIVER PLATE.

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament, February 1868.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
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Correspondence respecting Hostilities in the River Plate.

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament, February 1868.)

No. 1.

Señor Benitez to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 20.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Paraguayan Legation, Paris, March* 18, 1868.

THE perusal of the correspondence lately presented to Parliament by Her Britannic Majesty's Government has suggested to me some reflections which I have the honour to submit to your Excellency's favourable consideration, in furtherance of the aim most recommended to me by my Government—that of losing no opportunity of taking any step that may tend to draw closer and closer its friendly relations with Her Majesty's Government, so worthily represented by your Excellency.

The importance which is attributed in the aforesaid correspondence to the advantage which Paraguay may receive under these circumstances from the professional services of the English subjects resident there from before the war, leads to this conclusion: that if Paraguay is suddenly deprived of that element, the means for her defence will have to suffer grave detriment. The downfall of Paraguay, by the indirect aid of that and other causes, produced without the least hostile intention, as is well understood, on the part of a neutral and friendly Government, might appear as one of the desired solutions of that war which so much affects the interests of the neutrals. But I think, my Lord, knowing the means of my country, that that mode of solution would have more inconveniences than another already recommended, by the result with which it has been more than once employed by Her Britannic Majesty's Government for the pacification of the States of the River Plate.

Three years have passed away since the worthy Mr. Thornton announced, in notes which Parliament has seen, the easy and immediate conclusion of that war. Six months have now elapsed since the worthy Mr. Gould wrote his Memorandum of the 10th of September in Paraguay upon the state of the operations, in which he considered the downfall of Marshal Lopez to be imminent.

I fear, my Lord, that announcements of that kind, founded on the misfortune that my country suffers of not being known even by her neighbours, may be renewed more than once with the same result, if, as I firmly expect, the allies see the failure of their hopes of assistance that might be indirectly brought to them by an English dispute, which happily does not, and never will exist, for want of cause and ground to produce it.

With this persuasion, and considering the well-founded anxiety which the prolongation of the war produces in the commerce of all the neutrals, I do myself the honour of calling your Excellency's attention to the means of solution which perhaps might be employed this time by diplomacy, and probably with the same success as it has more than once been employed by Her Britannic Majesty's Government in the River Plate. This means would consist in influencing Brazil by counsels of abstinence and reserve, which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has the right to give by virtue of the Treaties of 1827, concluded by its mediation, under which Brazil abandoned her traditional aims of annexation and dominion over the countries of the Plate, and consented to the erection of the Oriental State, whose independence has been, and is still, invoked as the best guarantee for the free navigation of the affluents of the Plate against the monopolizing aspirations of Buenos Ayres and Brazil. And as Paraguay has required nothing else of Brazil, in her ultimatum of the 30th of August, 1864 (of which I beg to send your Excellency a copy inclosed), than respect for the Oriental State, and the non-occupation thereof by the

Brazilian army, the independence of that State being the key of security for that of Paraguay itself, England would see all the exigencies of justice fulfilled, and all the interests of free trade in those regions subserved, by simply obtaining what she got before from Brazil by her powerful representations in 1827 and 1856; that is, that Brazil withdraw her armies from the countries of the Plate, upon honourable conditions, which Paraguay would never reject, provided the honour were reciprocal.

A simple examination of the Secret Treaty of Alliance of the 1st of March, 1865, which Her Britannic Majesty's Government has made known to Parliament, shows that the present war is, by its aims and objects confessed in that document, a virtual derogation of the Treaties of 1827, and of the repeated declarations of Brazil that she had no territorial aims in the countries of the Plate.

Paraguay, my Lord, wants nothing else in this war than respect for and the stability of a fact which owes its existence to the liberal inspiration of England, and that is, the independence of the eastern side of the Plate against the ambitious designs, formerly adverse to each other, but now in alliance, of Buenos Ayres and Rio de Janeiro upon that margin of the mouth of the Plate which is the key to the direct commerce between inner America and the commercial Powers of Europe and the world.

I believe, my Lord, that I may add that this mode of solution would be as tranquillizing and agreeable for the generality of the South American Republics as that would be painful to them, which the Allies perhaps would only wish to see put in practice for the production of nothing else, as a final result, than the indirect re-establishment of the fluvial closure of the affluents of the Plate, by the hand most interested in removing the obstacles.

It is not difficult to believe, my Lord, that the Allies desire, and even seek now-a-days, a mediation of the neutral Powers which may give them the means of getting out of their desperate position with a good grace; but it is to be feared that they seek by the way of mediation the same solution as they have sought in vain by war, that is, the diminution or destruction of the power of Paraguay, under the pretext of subserving liberal interests, though in reality in order to serve monopolist and routine interests, the anti-British interests so to say, in which Buenos Ayres and Rio de Janeiro are trying to succeed the Madrid and Lisbon of Colonial times, in opposition to the progressive views of the new régime in America.

May your Excellency please not to forget that whoever seeks and solicits for English immigrants cannot be seeking tyranny and despotism, for every Englishman has in his composition a piece of the British constitution, that is, of the freedom of man.

On the other hand, why wonder, my Lord, that Paraguay should put obstacles in the way of foreigners passing from her soil to the soil of her enemies, when these, in blockading Paraguay, do nothing else than impede the passage of the forcigners residing in their respective territories to the soil of Paraguay? This is the whole spirit of the measure of Paraguay, which is the subject of discussion. It is not that of making the country a prison for any one, but that of preventing the ordinary mode of communication which her geographical situation allows, from redounding, under these exceptional circumstances, to a privilege for her enemies, which might be disastrous to herself.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) GREGORIO BENITEZ.

No. 2.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, February* 7, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that his Excellency Rear-Admiral Ramsay has informed me of his intention to despatch Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," to be stationed at Curupaïti, for the protection of British interests. His Excellency proceeds to state that her Commander has orders to afford a passage to me or any one from this Mission whom I may be desirous of sending to Paraguay, with the view of obtaining the release of the British subjects detained there.

In the absence of special instructions from your Lordship on the subject, I have respectfully declined the kind offer contained in the latter part of his Excellency's despatch, and have addressed to him the reply a copy of which your Lordship will find herewith inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Mr. Gould to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, February 7*, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 5th instant, acquainting me that it is your intention to send Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" up the river to be stationed at Curupaïti for the protection of British interests. Your Excellency further states that her Commander is directed to afford a passage to me or any one from Her Majesty's Legation whom I may be desirous of sending to Paraguay with the view of obtaining the release of the British subjects detained there.

On referring to your Excellency's despatch of the 24th October last, addressed to Mr. B. Mathew, I find you then expressed your intention not to send another gun-boat to Paraguay without further instructions from the Lords of the Admiralty; and I am, therefore, led to infer your Excellency must now be in possession of instructions on the subject from Her Majesty's Government, which have unfortunately not yet reached this Legation.

While fully concurring in the views expressed in Mr. B. Mathew's despatches to your Excellency of the 16th and 29th of October last, as to the "moral protection" the presence of one of Her Majesty's vessels within sight of the Paraguayan fortifications would afford to the unfortunate British subjects in Paraguay who may still survive, I regret to inform your Excellency that I do not consider myself at liberty to take any steps with regard to them until I shall have been made acquainted with the intentions of Her Majesty's Government.

More than three months have now elapsed since Mr. B. Mathew addressed a note to the Paraguayan Government warning it of the very serious responsibility it had incurred by its refusal to give up the British subjects in question. This note has, as I feared at the time, not even elicited a reply, and I therefore feel confident your Excellency will agree with me that, in the absence of special instructions, this Legation can for the present hold no further communication with the Government of President Lopez.

Your Excellency is, of course, aware of the rigorous blockade maintained by the Brazilian naval forces of the Paraguay as well as of the Parana above the confluence of the two rivers at a spot called "Las Tres Bocas." Should your Excellency adhere to the intention of sending the "Linnet" to be stationed at Curupaïti, where her presence may be of the greatest advantage, I will not fail to take at once all the necessary steps to insure her meeting with no difficulties in passing through the blockading squadron.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 3.

Lord Stanley to Señor Benitez.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *Foreign Office, March 25*, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, containing observations with regard to the correspondence on the subject of the hostilities on the River Plate which has recently been laid before Parliament, and suggesting that the influence of Great Britain might be exerted with Brazil with a view to bring the war to a termination.

I have now the honour to state to you that, if both the Contending Parties should make an application with this object, Her Majesty's Government would not be unwilling to employ their good offices; provided it should appear that the condition on which either was prepared to make peace were reasonable and likely to be accepted by the other. But in any case Her Majesty's Government must press for the release of British subjects from detention in Paraguay as a preliminary to the exertion of their good offices.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 4.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 26, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you herewith, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres,* inclosing copy of his reply to Rear-Admiral Ramsay, respecting his intention to station Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" at Curupaiti for the protection of British interests.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 5.

Señor Benitez to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 3.)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Paraguayan Legation, Paris, April* 2, 1868.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note of the 25th of March last, in which your Excellency is pleased to tell me that Her Britannic Majesty's Government would not forbear to employ its good offices for the purpose of seeking a termination of the hostilities of which the River Plate is the theatre, if both the belligerent parties should show their desire for it, and provided that the conditions of peace should appear reasonable in your Excellency's opinion, and should offer probabilities of mutual acceptance.

I hasten at once, my Lord, to express to your Excellency the gratitude which my Government cannot but feel for the generous and noble inclination of Her Majesty's Government to employ its good offices in favour of peace, and of which I shall take care to inform my Government at the first opportunity.

Meanwhile, I must also hasten to declare to your Excellency that I have no special and direct instruction or authority whatever to solicit for mediation, or any kind of overture from a friendly Power, although I am persuaded that Paraguay would not refuse any national and honourable means of attaining peace, as she has already proved, more than once, during this very war.

But as a long space of time is necessary to write to Paraguay and to get official answers, I consider myself authorized by the circumstances, and by the very interests of my Government, to deduce from the actual history of the question and from the most authentic documents, what would be the basis of discussion which could not but meet with the acceptance of Paraguay, at the time that peace should be offered to her through the good offices of a friendly Power.

The chief, and, perhaps, the only one, is the confirmation and consolidation of the independence of the Oriental State of the Uruguay, with regard to the two Governments which have indirectly given to it the administration which it at present has, in violation of the Treaty of 1828, concluded under the mediation of Her Britannic Majesty. The independence of the Oriental State being a geographical guarantee for the free navigation of the affluents of the Plate, Paraguay, which cannot exist as a Sovereign State without that freedom, could not but look upon the military occupation of the Oriental Republic by Brazil as a threat or an attack directed against her own security, her own independence, and naturally has had to look upon the lot of the Oriental State as her own.

This condition could never fail to appear as rational to your Excellency's Government, which inspired the formation of the Oriental State; and the belligerents of Paraguay, signataries to the Treaty of 1828, which now they break by common means and to their common profit, could not treat as unacceptable what they have already accepted, and which bears their signature.

But the inevitable and complemental consequences of this basis would be the immediate evacuation of the territory of Paraguay by the armies and squadrons of the allies, and the total evacuation of the countries of the Plate by the armies and squadrons of Brazil. Without this condition the independence of the Oriental Republic would be but a mere name.

In consequence of that evacuation, Paraguay would naturally bring her occupation of Matto-Grosso to an end, that having been a measure of reprisal which Brazil put her in a position to take, by the entry of its armies into the Oriental territory, as was anticipated in the ultimatum of 30th August, 1864.

* No. 2.

The natural adoption of a principle of compensation widely interpreted and applied, would cause the disappearance of every kind of claim for damages and grievances on either side.

Paraguay would not, of course, relinquish the attitude which now protects her whole existence, without guarantees from her aggressors of a formal and definitive desistance from their military views set down in the Treaty of the 1st May, 1865. This Treaty has been determinatively protested against by all the Republics of the Pacific, and implicitly by the maritime Powers of Europe and America. Therefore its total and absolute abandonment could not be considered as an inadmissible and unreasonable condition.

But the most practical guarantee that could be given for that desistance and for the sincerity of the belligerents in concluding peace upon the aforesaid bases, would be the ratification and confirmation of the principle of the free navigation of the affluents of the Plate for all flags, and the declaration of that principle in a Treaty in which the Oriental Republic, Brazil, and the Argentine Confederation, integrated by Buenos Ayres (which protested against that Treaty before the Governments of England and France) should take part on the one side, and England on the other, as well as every other commercial Power that might wish to adhere to it. Paraguay, as principally interested in this guarantee, would be ready to subscribe the said Treaty, although she has her own already with the maritime States of Europe and America.

Those who have invoked the principle of free river navigation in order to carry the war to Paraguay, could not find it inadmissible and unreasonable for a condition of peace. But it will not be sufficient for them to say that that principle is laid down in their internal laws and in the Treaties between riverains. Experience has proved that every principle of that kind which is not declared in Treaties with one or more of the commercial Powers of Europe cannot be considered as sufficiently guaranteed.

To meet with peace, my Lord, it is indispensable to know what is the interest that has produced its perturbation, and that may be prejudiced by peace. Brazil would not be in the Plate if her presence and co-operation had not been, and were not, even up to the present time, necessary to the existence of the frail and unstable Government which the Argentine Government has received at the hands of a pacific revolution brought about by Buenos Ayres with monopolist views which are irreconcileable with the commercial freedom which Europe longs for in those countries. And as the war is necessary for the maintenance of the alliance which Brazil has in the Plate, the present Argentine Government, which lives by that alliance, will maintain the war, the reason of its being, as necessary to its very existence. It is this which has rendered all attempts at mediation fruitless; first, those for the prevention of the war, and subsequently those to bring it to an end.

If that Government which makes the war its means of its existence be supported by special consideration, every friendly Power that does so at the expense of Paraguay, and of the interior countries of the Plate whose interests and destiny coincide with those of Paraguay, will give an involuntary support to the war which it desires to prevent, and to the restrictive policy which opposes its views of free trade. I beg to call your Excellency's attention to this difficulty in the way of peace, so that it may not be supposed, when the time arrives for seeking peace, that all the difficulties come from the side of Brazil. Although less ostensible, the most tenacious will come from another part, and this consideration convinces me, my Lord, that if a mediation had to take place solely on condition of its being required by all the belligerents, without exception, it would run the risk of becoming impracticable.

Now, my Lord, there remains for me to speak of a condition which depends on your Excellency, and on which condition will depend the entire fate of any negotiation whatever for peace. I refer to the last words of your honoured note of the 25th of March, which I have the honour of answering. If Her Britannic Majesty's Government should consider that it must insist on the departure of the English employed by Paraguay as a preliminary for the exercise of its good offices, it would be more than probable that Brazil might find every proposal of peace inadmissible, whilst the war gave her an illusion of victory as the result of the withdrawal of that element of force from Paraguay before the attainment of peace. I flatter myself, my Lord, that this grave consideration will contribute to the maintenance of that reserve and wisdom with which your Excellency has hitherto conducted this delicate incident, which so deeply affects a country that is a devoted friend to Great Britain.

Your Excellency will also allow me to insist respectfully that it is only by an involuntary misconception that those persons can be represented as detained who went freely to Paraguay, who have freely renewed their contracts, and who are free to leave Paraguay at this very time by its western frontier, without the necessity of touching the

soil of its enemies. To this it is said that the way of Bolivia is impracticable; and yet, my Lord, it has been made use of for two centuries,—for Paraguay, like all the establishments in her region, has received from Spain all those who came to form her population, and the principal elements of her colonization, across nearly the whole of the territory of South America, by Porto Bello (in Panama), which is much more distant than Arica and Cobija from the city of Asuncion. Only the immense superiority of the direct way makes that road appear impracticable which has been considered for ages as the most natural. And the Government of Paraguay is so far from preferring the old system that it was the initiator of the modern one in signing its River Navigation Treaty of the month of March 1853.

In regard to the very few English who are in the service of Paraguay, I will add, my Lord, that not one of them is engaged in military service, not one of them is a soldier. As engineers and machinists they were engaged in England at a time of peace and to serve in the works and labours of peace, in which they will continue after the end of the war; for the steamer and the engines serve for industrial production, and neither they nor the engineers can be considered as contraband of war, although their works may contribute to augment the force of a belligerent country.

Vouchsafe, &c.
(Signed) GREGORIO BENITEZ.

No. 6.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received April* 4.)

Sir, *Admiralty, March* 30, 1868.

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 26th March, with its inclosures, from Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, respecting the "Linnet" being sent to Curupaiti for the protection of British interests.

My Lords desire me to state, for the information of Lord Stanley, that on the receipt of your letter of the 21st December last, directions were given to Rear-Admiral Ramsay to send another gun-boat to Curupaiti.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 7.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 6.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, February* 21, 1868.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, relative to the decision of Her Majesty's Government to send one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to Paraguay, I have the honour to forward herewith the copy of a communication I have considered it advisable to address to the naval Commander-in-chief on the subject.

I sincerely trust the few suggestions I have ventured to make will be found to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government in sending a gun-boat under present circumstances to be stationed within sight of the Paraguayan positions.

As your Lordship will see, I have endeavoured to point out to the Admiral the impracticability of carrying out that part of the instructions addressed to him which refers to Curupaiti, as a vessel stationed at that point would not only be exposed to the greatest danger, but impede the military operations of the belligerents. I have, therefore, deemed it my duty to recommend the substitution of Curuzú for Curupaiti, where the gun-boat, while lying in perfect safety, would still be in view of the camp of President Lopez.

In the event of the allies taking Humaita there would no longer be any object for the presence of a gun-boat at Curuzú, and I have in consequence further proposed that orders should be issued to her Commander to ascend the River Paraguay as far as to Assumption, whenever she can do so with safety.

Your Lordship is doubtless aware no Agent of Her Majesty's Government has visited Paraguay since Mr. Pakenham's mission to Assumption in June 1865. Moreover, owing to the arbitrary proceedings of President Lopez, and the desperate character

of the present protracted war, British subjects in that country have, as I am reliably informed, suffered very much both in person and property.

Pending the arrival of special instructions from your Lordship, which I can scarcely hope to receive for some months, and in consideration of the critical position British subjects will find themselves in at the termination of the war, which now seems to be near at hand, I have informed the Admiral of my intention to adopt temporary measures for the protection of British interests in Paraguay, and requested him to direct the Commander of the gun-boat in question to watch over them in the first instance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Mr. Gould to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, February* 17, 1868.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch of the 10th instant, I have the honour to state that Her Majesty's Government has communicated to me a copy of the instructions addressed to your Excellency relative to the despatch of one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to Paraguay; but as there are no directions whatever for me to proceed thither in person, or to send any one from the Mission, I cannot avail myself of your Excellency's kind offer of a passage.

In compliance with your Excellency's request, I have lost no time in placing myself in communication with the Brazilian Special Mission, in order to obtain all the necessary facilities for the passage of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" through the Brazilian blockading squadron.

I likewise intend furnishing her Commander with letters for the Commander-in-chief of the allied forces and the Admiral commanding the Brazilian fleet. I feel confident they will afford him every assistance in their power, and on the latter he will have to depend entirely for fresh supplies, and for the means of forwarding his despatches to your Excellency.

I shall also be happy to take charge of any communications your Excellency may have occasion to address to the Commander of the gun-boat in question.

I beg to submit to your Excellency certain suggestions in consideration of which you may perhaps be induced to furnish the Commander of the "Linnet" with some further instructions:—

1. That immediately after his arrival at the seat of war, her Commander should, if possible, seek to place himself in personal communication with the Commander-in-chief of the allied forces, and likewise avail himself of the first favourable opportunity to wait upon Admiral Ignacio, whose flag-ship is at present stationed off Humaitá.

2. That the "Linnet" should be stationed at Curuzú, as at Curupaiti she would be exposed to the fire of the Paraguayan batteries and that of the Brazilian squadrons both above and below that point. I therefore propose that she should take up a position in the left rear of the Brazilian squadron, off Curuzú, where she would be completely out of the line of fire, and beyond musket-range of the Paraguayan side of the river, although still within sight of the Paraguayan fortifications at Curupaiti.

3. That in the event of the Brazilian fleet overcoming the obstacles to the safe navigation of the River Paraguay, the Commander of the "Linnet" should be permitted to ascend that river as far as to Assumption, where her presence would be of undoubted advantage for the protection of the numerous British subjects residing in that city.

4. That in consequence of the unsatisfactory state of the relations between Her Majesty's Government and that of Paraguay, the above-named officer should be instructed to hold no communication whatever with the present Paraguayan authorities, unless it were for the express purpose of either taking charge of any document addressed to this Mission, or of receiving on board his vessel any of the British subjects for whose protection he is specially sent.

5. That should the allies gain possession of Paraguay, he should be further authorized to watch over British interests in that country pending the arrival of a special Agent from this Mission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 8.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 6.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, February* 24, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 21st instant, I have the satisfaction to acquaint your Lordship that Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," Lieutenant and Commander Percy Bushe, left this morning for Paraguay.

The delay which occurred was entirely caused by the difficulties I experienced in obtaining the necessary facilities for her passage through the blockading squadron at the mouth of the River Paraguay. On my representing the matter to the Brazilian special Envoy, he stated that he had not the power to take any decision on a point which ought to have been referred to his Government at Rio de Janeiro. He has, however, kindly provided me with a sealed despatch for the allied Commander-in-chief, in which, I am led to believe, he recommends that the requisite facilities should be granted. On the other hand, Señor Elizalde, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who at first did not seem to understand the real nature of the request, would not consent to defer it to the decision of the Generals in the field. He has, I am happy to say, ended by addressing a note, under flying seal, to the Commander-in-chief of the Argentine forces, directing him to meet the views of Her Majesty's Government in this respect.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 9.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 6.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, February* 26, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Brazilian fleet has at last successfully forced the passage of Humaitá, an achievement the importance of which, in every respect, cannot be overrated. Apart from the decisive advantages it gives the allies in a military point of view, and the moral effect it must produce on the Paraguayans, this most hazardous operation has served to place beyond doubt the extraordinary power of resistance of iron-clad vessels, even when exposed at a very short range, to the fire of heavy artillery. The difficulties which had to be overcome seemed almost of an insuperable nature, and were: the extreme narrowness of the channel; the sharp bend in its course, owing to which a concentrated and raking fire could be directed from almost every point; the force of the current; the number and heavy calibre of the guns, many of which were 68-pounders; the great variety of the obstacles of all kinds accumulated in that part of the river for months past; and, finally, the perfect state of preparation of the garrison, which had been fully warned of the proposed movement.

On the 13th instant three small monitors, of light draught, passed without difficulty the formidable batteries at Curupaiti, and joined the advanced squadron below Humaitá, composed of ten iron-clads, under Admiral Ignacio. On the 16th one of these made a reconnaissance, and found 15 feet of water over the chain laid across the river, which was unusually high at the time.

At early dawn on the 19th three iron-clads, with one of the small monitors lashed to each of them, on the least exposed side, proceeded to force the passage, under the command of Captain Carvalho; at the same moment the remainder of the iron-clads, the wooden squadron at Curuzú, and the gun-boats stationed in the Laguna Piris, opened fire on the enemy's position, while the land forces made a feint attack along the whole of their extensive lines from Tuyuti to Talú. The passage was successfully accomplished in forty-two minutes by the whole of the vessels engaged in it, without any very serious damage.

Marshal Caxias, at the head of a picked body of troops, variously estimated at between 10,000 and 16,000, then attacked a strong and very important redoubt, called "Establecimiento," close to Humaitá, on the north. Although it was bravely held by a numerous garrison, with fifteen field-pieces, the Marshal succeeded in taking it. The Brazilian troops fought, it seems, remarkably well, but suffered very severely, and it is doubtful whether they will be able to maintain themselves in the position thus dearly won, as it is very much exposed to the enemy's fire.

By last accounts, which reach up to the 23rd instant, severe fighting is reported to be going on at various points, but with what result yet remains to be ascertained. It is

also rumoured that two iron-clads have ascended the river with the object of bombarding Assumption.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 10.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 6.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, March 8, 1868.*

THIS capital has been the scene of unusual rejoicings during the past week in consequence of the welcome news of the passage of the fort of Humaitá by a portion of the Brazilian iron-clad ships and monitors, and of a successful attack upon the important outwork of Establecimiento, on the north side of the fortress, by the Imperial land forces, under the immediate command of the Marquis de Caxias.

The squadron, led by Captain Delphim de Carvalho, and consisting of the "Barroso," "Bahia," and "Tamandaré," iron-clads, having the monitors "Rio Grande," "Alagoas," and "Tara," in tow, got under weigh before daybreak on the 19th ultimo; but the enemy was evidently prepared for the movement, as blue lights, bonfires, and various inflammable contrivances on a level with the river immediately lighted up the channel. As the ships proceeded upwards, protected at first by the fire of the rest of the fleet, they became engaged with the various batteries, but did not slacken their speed; the guns of Humaitá are said to have been fired at too high an elevation, and the great majority of their balls to have consequently passed over the vessels, but these suffered severely from a new battery at Timbo, on the opposite side of the river, mounted with two 68-pounders, and with two 32 Whitworth guns. The rise of the stream from late heavy floods had been so great that upwards of fifteen feet of water were found over the chain laid across the river, which the Paraguayans had endeavoured in vain to tighten, and which was thus easily passed. Doubtless many of the torpedoes and other obstructions had been swept away by the unusual force of the current.

By daybreak all the ships (with the exception of the little "Alagoas") had passed, not indeed without damage, but without the loss of a single man, having thus accomplished a feat that will find its place in the annals of the military and naval science of the age, and that vindicates a high standard for the courage and the discipline of the Brazilian navy.

The journals publish the following return of the number of balls by which each vessel was struck:—

	Humaitá.		Timbó.
"Barroso"	4	..	12
"Rio Grande"	0	..	6
"Bahia"	65	..	80
"Alagoas"	0	..	4
"Tamandaré"	60	..	110
"Pará"	38	..	25

The "Tamandaré," it is added, was obliged to be beached immediately for repairs, to keep her afloat.

The gallant conduct of the Commander of the "Alagoas" has received special notice, as it appears that her tow rope having been cut by a ball, and her engines being in bad order, she drifted down with the current to her anchorage, but was brought up again, after some delay, by the energetic efforts of her Commander, and made the passage alone, and by daylight, sinking three launches, in which the enemy hoped to board so insignificant looking a foe: it is not impossible that her comparative immunity from injury from the batteries arose from the presence of these assailants.

The attack upon the entrenched works of Establecimiento appears to have been made as soon as the sound of the cannon to the north of Humaitá announced that a part, at all events, of the assailing squadron had forced the passage, and to have been brilliantly successful, although the Paraguayans fought with their usual indomitable courage.

I have the honour to inclose a translation of Marshal Caxias' Report of this operation.

I understand that the adjacent work of Laureles was subsequently evacuated by the Paraguayans, and that three of the Brazilian ships proceeded to Asuncion, for which capital a corps d'armée, under General Osorio, was to march by land.

Among the honours and rewards bestowed by His Imperial Majesty upon the officers

engaged in these actions, I remark that Marshal Caxias has been named a Grand Cross of the highest Brazilian order, the Southern Cross, and that Captain Delphim de Carvalho has been created Baron of "Passage."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Newspaper Extract.

ATTACK ON HUMAITA.—OFFICIAL DESPATCH.

To his Excellency Baron de Herval.

I HAVE the extreme pleasure of informing your Excellency that at 5 A.M. this morning, I commanded an attack with part of the troops which had been brought up from Tuycué, against a fort of the enemy's called Establecimiento, which is a little beyond Laureles, and a place of the greatest importance to Lopez for maintaining communications and facilitating the supply of cattle.

The fort was surrounded by two deep ditches and formidable earthworks, on which were placed at convenient points fifteen light field-pieces. The garrison was about 1,600 strong.

Against this formidable battery our men advanced openly; and the bravery of the attack well merited the success with which it was eventually crowned.

After a stubborn resistance the garrison were overpowered, and retreated disorderly across the adjacent bogs, pursued by our victorious battalions.

The enemy's loss is from 500 to 600 killed, and leaving in our possession, besides the fifteen mounted guns mentioned above, a large quantity of arms and ammunition held in reserve. On our side there were about 600 *hors de combat*, including killed and wounded.

Your Excellency will please not fail to forward at once as many carts as you can secure, even at the expense of commercial interests. These measures are of the utmost importance, so that the wounded and prisoners should not remain long exposed here.

This evening I purpose sending to San Solano the two brigades which suffered most in the attack, the remainder staying to occupy the position.

I purpose leaving immediately for Tuyi, to confer with the Capitan del Mar y Guerra, Delfim Carlos de Carvalho, who, as I have just been informed by Brigadier Victorino, forced the passage of Humaitá at daybreak to-day, with the monitors and iron-clads.

My object in conferring with the gallant Admiral is to plan our subsequent movements, following up our present successes.

Congratulating your Excellency on these glorious events, I have, &c.
(Signed) CAXIAS.

Fuerte Establecimiento, February 19, 1868.

No. 11.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 6.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, March* 10, 1868.

INTELLIGENCE was received yesterday by the Brazilian steamer "Apa" of the occupation of Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, by the naval force sent against it. The papers state that Señor Berges, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who came off with a flag of truce to stop hostilities, declared that none of the male inhabitants remained in the town.

Humaîtá still held out, but President Lopez was reported to be in the Chaco Desert, on the opposite side of the river.

I was extremely glad to find that your Lordship concurred in the propriety of sending one of Her Majesty's gun-boats to Paraguay as a means of affording at least some moral protection to Her Majesty's subjects illegally detained there; and that instructions (which have been duly carried out) had been transmitted to this effect to Admiral Ramsay.

The present crisis of affairs must be fraught with increased danger to those persons, and will, I think, prove the utility of the measure; nor do I consider it unlikely that President Lopez may take refuge under a foreign flag (with the full assent of all parties)

to leave the country. Indeed, I should much fear that he would rather attempt a guerilla warfare, disastrous to the interests of commerce and humanity, than surrender himself a prisoner, if no safe opening offers itself for his departure.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 6,* 1868.

WITH reference to the instructions from the Secretary of the Admiralty to Rear-Admiral Ramsay of the 23rd of December last, which were communicated to this office on the 23rd of that month, I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires,* inclosing a copy of a letter which he has addressed to the Admiral, containing suggestions with reference to the movements of Her Majesty's steam gun-boat "Linnet" in the Paraguay; and informing him that it is his intention, in the event of the termination of the war, to adopt temporary measures for the protection of British subjects in Paraguay, and that in the meantime the Commander of the "Linnet" might be instructed to watch over them.

I am to request that in laying this despatch before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, you will inform them that Lord Stanley, with their Lordships' concurrence, proposes to approve Mr. Gould's proceedings, and to instruct him, in the case specified, to watch over British interests in Paraguay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 7.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April 6,* 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to forward you herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Ramsay dated the 22nd of February, stating that Her Majesty's ship "Linnet" had been ordered to Paraguay to protect British interests in that country.

It is presumed that the inclosure to Admiral Ramsay's letter has been already received by the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HENRY G. LENNOX.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Rear-Admiral Ramsay to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir, "*Narcissus,*" *at Monte Video, February* 22, 1868.

IN reply to your letter of the 23rd of December last, conveying to me the directions of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send a gun-boat to Curupaiti for the protection of British interests, I beg you will inform their Lordships that I despatched the "Linnet" on this service on the 12th instant, with instructions to communicate with Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres. I subsequently received a letter from Mr. Gould, of which the inclosed is a copy; and I have accordingly directed the Lieutenant-Commander of the "Linnet" to proceed to Curuzú instead of Curupaiti, and to observe, for his guidance, the suggestions contained in Mr. Gould's despatch, so far as circumstances may admit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. RAMSAY.

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* No. 7.

No. 14.

Lord Stanley to Señor Benitez.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *Foreign Office, April 7, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, having reference to the present war between Brazil and her allies on the one side and the Republic of Paraguay on the other.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 15.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 7, 1868.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of correspondence with the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires at this Court with reference to the papers on the subject of the hostilities on the River Plate which have recently been laid before Parliament, and to suggestions put forward by Señor Benitez that the influence of Great Britain might be exerted to bring the war to a termination.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 16.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received April 12.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, February 27, 1868.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, the translation of a detailed account of the passage of Humaitá by a portion of the Brazilian iron-clad squadron. I trust it will be found interesting, and, as far as I have yet been able to ascertain, it seems to be correct in most points.

Three of the vessels, the least damaged on this occasion, have proceeded to Asuncion, which must be in an almost defenceless state. They were to be immediately followed by a column of 10,000 men under General Osorio.

Marshal Caxias appears, according to the somewhat confused accounts which reach this, to have withdrawn his troops from Establecimiento, after having destroyed it. This is the outwork of Humaitá, which he had taken by assault on the 19th instant. A neighbouring redoubt called Laureles had been previously evacuated by the Paraguayan garrison which succeeded in escaping.

If President Lopez is still in Humaitá, as is generally believed, he must now be hemmed in on all sides, and will soon be compelled to surrender at discretion.

I have. &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Account of the Passage of Humaitá by the Brazilian Squadron.

(Translation.)

THREE days before the passage of the squadron the Paraguayans floated several torpedos, attached to buoys, down the stream, but those that came in contact with the vessels did not cause any damage.

On the night of the 18th to 19th instant, at 12·30, the Brazilian monitors were stationed in front of Puerto Elisario in the following order:—the "Barroso" towing the "Rio Grande," the "Bahia" towing the "Alagoas," and the "Tamandaré" towing the "Para," the smaller monitors being on the port side of the larger.

* Nos. 1, 3, 5, and 14.

At this hour the advance commenced. The Paraguayan picquet stationed in front of the Bocas del Rio de Oro fired a musket as a signal to let off three rockets, whereby it is supposed that they were not aware of the presence of the small monitors, as they were hidden behind the larger ones.

As the squadron passed by the island it was detained until 3·15 A.M. by the "Alagoas" breaking away from the "Bahia."

The iron-clads "Lima Barro" and "Silvado" took their positions near the Punto de las Piedras, at 450 metres from the coast of the Chaco; the "Brazil," "Cabral," "Columbo," and "Herval" in the middle of the river, at about 500 metres from the rocks.

The expeditionary squadron passed beyond the "Brazil" at less than half speed.

The first shot was fired by the London battery. At this period six of the iron-clads opened fire, but the Paraguayans did not return it for the space of ten minutes. The "Barroso" was close to the London battery, and the Paraguayans let off a rocket per minute along the surface of the water to light up the river. When the vessels approached the chain laid across the river, the Paraguayans lit some fires of dry wood at three separate points on the Chaco coast; the light thrown by these fires being so strong as to prevent anything being seen ahead of the vessels and thus confusing the pilots. There were several torpedos attached to the cable across the river, but none of them exploded.

As the squadron was passing over the cable the Paraguayans increased their fire; but as the expedition kept near the Chaco side of the river, most of the shots fell on the shore. Having passed the chain the Paraguayans succeeded in cutting the ropes with which the "Alagoas" was lashed to the "Bahia." The latter continued her course, but the former drifted down the stream until she came close to the "Brazil." She then started a second time and passed the cable by herself. A shot from the batteries damaged her engines, which circumstance obliged her to fall back a second time. The engineers repaired the damage done, and the Admiral, having signalled to the "Alagoas" to proceed up the river, she started passing, for the fifth time, over the cable. This monitor was altogether for two hours under fire, and she did not get clear until 5·30 A.M.

Two Paraguayan steamers took refuge in a lagoon above Humaitá, but the squadron passed on without doing them any harm.

From the new batteries opposite Timbó, the Paraguayans fired first with 32-Whitworths, and when the squadron approached, with 68-pounders. This fort fired with six guns (68 and 32), and here the vessels passed through a heavier fire than at Humaitá.

Note of shots that struck the steamers.

	Humaitá.	Fort opposite Timbó.
Barroso	4 ..	12
Rio Grande	— ..	6
Bahia	65 ..	80
Alagoas	Lost the reckoning..	4
Tamandaré	— ..	about 110
Pará	38 ..	25

The "Alagoas" steamed up last, and at a great distance from the the other vessels, and, after the second shot fired on her by the fort opposite Timbó, twenty canoes started from the shore full of men armed with swords, lances, &c., to board this steamer, as she was only able to proceed very slowly, owing to the damage sustained in her second attempt to pass the cable. Five canoes attacked her by the stern, two ran against her and sank, and the rest tried to board her by the bow. They fired on the canoes with grape, and having sunk most of them passed on.

The "Tamandaré," which suffered the most severely, arrived with difficulty at Taeji, as she received three shots in her bow and was making six inches of water per hour. The "Alagoas" and the "Pará" have their upper works completely carried away. The former was struck all over by the enemy's shot, but although her plates are all cracked no shot penetrated her. These three vessels remained at Taeji to repair; but the other three ("Bahia," "Barroso," and "Rio Grande") started at 11·50 A.M. on the 20th for Asuncion, under the orders of Captain Delfino Carvalho.

No. 17.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received April* 13.)

Sir, *Admiralty, April* 11, 1868.

WITH reference to your letter of the 6th instant, and its inclosures, relative to the steps proposed to be taken by Mr. Gould for the protection of British interests in Paraguay, and to his request that Her Majesty's ship "Linnet" may be employed on this service, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that they concur in the view taken by Lord Stanley of the propriety of the steps proposed to be taken by Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, and have informed the Admiral on the station accordingly.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. G. ROMAINE.

No. 18.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 15, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of February, inclosing a copy of a letter which you have addressed to Rear-Admiral Ramsay containing suggestions with reference to the movements of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," and acquainting him with the measures which, in the event of the termination of the war, you propose to adopt for the protection of British subjects in Paraguay; and I have now to convey to you my approval of your proceedings.

I have also to inform you that the Board of Admiralty, to whom I communicated a copy of your despatch, concur in the steps proposed to be taken by you, and have instructed Rear-Admiral Ramsay accordingly.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 19.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received April* 20.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, March* 11, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 27th ultimo, relative to the passage of Humaitá by a division of the iron-clad squadron, and the subsequent bombardment of Asuncion, I have the honour to forward herewith to your Lordship the official reports of these two operations.

No important change has taken place since that date in the relative positions of the belligerents.

The despatch of a column of troops into the interior of the country under General Osorio seems to have been postponed. Two wooden gun-boats have succeeded in forcing their way past the batteries at Curupaiti, and have joined the division of iron-clads stationed below Humaitá.

The Paraguayans on their side made, on the 2nd instant, a most daring night attack on the Brazilian iron-clads the "Lima Barros" and the "Cabral." Twelve hundred picked men, armed with swords, revolvers, and hand-grenades, in forty-eight canoes, gallantly boarded these vessels. They for a time gained possession of the decks; but the Brazilians, shutting themselves up in the revolving turrets of the monitors, opened a terrific fire of grape-shot on them, and eventually drove them back, not however before the Paraguayans had succeeded in throwing several hand-grenades into the interior of the vessels, by the explosion of which many of the crews were killed and wounded. This desperate struggle of two hours' duration was finally put an end to by a third iron-clad, which did great execution amongst the Paraguayans by running down their canoes.

The Brazilians had 32 men and several officers killed and wounded; while the Paraguayans lost, it is supposed, about 400 men. The Brazilian Admiral states, in an unofficial report, that in the hope of rescuing those in the water, he caused boats to be

lowered; but on their approach these undaunted men invariably dived, thus preferring to be drowned rather than fall into the hands of their foes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Official Report of the Passage of Humaitá.

On board the "Brazil," in Port Elizario,
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *February* 28, 1868.

BEFORE describing to your Excellency the engagement that took place between the 2nd and 3rd Division of the squadron under my orders, and the famous batteries of Humaitá, on the memorable 19th of this month, in which the Brazilian flag, triumplantly waving from six of our men-of-war, surmounted the chains and torpedoes which eminent seamen of the three great maritime nations pronounced beyond the reach of the most powerful fleet to overcome, I may be permitted to express to your Excellency and to the brave army under your command, in my own name, and in that of all my subalterns, the most sincere congratulations for the victory which, at the same hour that we, the navy, were fighting, was obtained on the above-mentioned day in the important position of the Establecimiento—a victory which will, no doubt, lead to the taking of Asuncion, and to the consequent termination of this war of devastation.

When your Excellency honoured the squadron with a visit in Port Elizario, it was agreed that one division, aided by the remaining ships, after the passage of Curupaiti by the monitors, should attempt, at all hazard, to pass Humaitá on the day and at the hour to be agreed upon with the army, which would then operate according to the plan which your Excellency might deem most suitable to circumstances.

I fixed on the 23rd, at 3 o'clock in the morning, as being the day and hour that appeared to me most appropriate, since the darkness and the facility of hiding the movements of the ships behind the trees of the Chaco, and the progressive rising of the river, would allow me, if not to effectively surprise the enemy, to render more difficult his means of defence and attack.

On the 13th the monitors passed up with the most wonderful success. Only one was barely touched by two shots, being obliged to stop in order to avoid a torpedo which crossed its bows.

On this occasion I tried the plan which I intended to put into execution at Humaitá, with, as your Excellency perceives, a most happy result.

Unexpectedly the river began to lower, and I dreaded that I should be deprived of the first element necessary to ensure victory. I wrote to your Excellency declaring the necessity of hurrying on the operation, and designated the 19th, at 2 o'clock in the morning.

I then organised the third division, composed of the iron-clads "Bahia," "Barros," and "Tamandaré," as they drew less water than any. To each of them I ordered a monitor to be lashed on their port side—being to the first the "Alagoas," to the second the "Rio Grande," and to the third the "Para." I gave the command of this force to Captain Delfin Carlos de Carvalho, with the instructions which I communicated to your Excellency, and I followed in the "Brazil" to the vanguard, whence, without being perceived by the enemy, I placed my ships in a position to attack with advantage and without much risk the greater portion of the enemy's batteries, reserving for the "Lima Barros," with the Commander of the 2nd Division, Joaquin Rodriguez de Costa, and for the "Silvado," the post of greatest danger, and therefore of greatest honour, in front of the London battery, and within grape-shot from the chains.

Shortly after midnight the 3rd Division sailed from Port Elizario, leaving there only the "Mariz y Bario."

The "Barroso" advanced rapidly; the "Bahia," having lost its rudder, was nearly aground, and was some time before getting clear again; the "Tamandaré" progressed slowly. As the "Barroso" passed within hailing distance I ordered it to wait, and when the "Bahia" came up Delfin told me that his pilot, Lieutenant Luis Repeto, was afraid of undertaking the passage, on account of the bad qualities of the ship; but I ordered him to proceed. Our manœuvres were by this time completely discovered by the enemy, and announced by rockets from Curupaiti to the garrison of Humaitá.

At 3·35 the 3rd Division entered the Humaitá canal. Sixty pieces from its imposing batteries opened fire simultaneously upon our six ships. I was not long in replying, and we soon had the pleasure of hearing the report of the artillery of our land army.

The "Lima Barros" placed itself opportunely so as to present its towers across its starboard, whilst the "Silvado" was lashed to the shore; and the fires from these two ships was kept up most vigorously and effectively. Shortly afterwards the enemy appeared disconcerted, and for some time made scarcely any resistance.

All of a sudden great bonfires light up the Chaco, in front of the canal. The firing of the enemy becomes greater, and the atmosphere becomes a canopy of dust and fire, presenting a scene of such grandeur as I have never before witnessed in my long military career.

At ten minutes past 4 a rocket sent up from the other side of the chains announced to me that our ships had passed through.

The enthusiasm with which this sign was received by the whole fleet was truly wonderful. Another rocket, and then a third, told me that the invincible division were pushing forward in quest of new dangers, having already overcome some reputed insuperable.

Just then I observed the monitor "Alagoas," whose hawser had been cut by the enemy's balls, drifting down the current, after having passed the redoubtable chain, land batteries, &c. I at once signalled for her to anchor beyond range of the fort. But the gallant commander, J. Antonio C. Maurity, paid the same attention to my orders as did Nelson at Copenhagen to the order of retiring from Admiral Parker; and putting on steam, he moved up amidst a perfect storm of shot and shell from shore. I allowed him to follow his glorious destiny, knowing that God protects acts of valour. If I could now place the insignia of a superior officer on the shoulder of my brave comrade, First Lieutenant Maurity, I would do so with the utmost pleasure.

The fire from Humaitá enveloped the small monitor, and as the day cleared he appeared to be irretrievably lost. But another rocket announced to me that it had passed through.

A great victory had been gained, a difficult problem had been solved, and the Brazilian navy had risen to a most important situation.

The prestige of Humaitá was shivered on the 19th of February, as that of Curupaiti had vanished on the 15th of August, having as record not only a great victory, but also an event of wonderful bravery in the noble action of Lieutenant Maurity. And yet this action was only the prelude of another equally heroic. Forty canoes laden with Paraguayans armed with bows and arrows attacked the small "Alagoas." Maurity, by his able manœuvring, succeeds in sinking some, destroying others, and making the rest retreat, whilst he proceeded on his way.

The 3rd Division did not fall in with the Paraguayan steamers I had ordered to take or destroy, as they were in the Arroyo Hondo, from whence they caused so much damage to your Excellency's forces, which attacked with the bayonet Establecimiento. It then ascending the river, fired some shot into Laurels, when it finds that in Timbó was arrayed against it a new and formidable fortification with numerous and heavy artillery. The pasage of this new obstacle gave more trouble than that of Humaitá; but it nevertheless surmounted it, and anchored at half-past ten in Tayi, amid the cheers of the valiant Division, commanded by the worthy General Carneiro Monteiro, stationed there.

As day dawned, and the 3rd Division having fulfilled the mission entrusted to it, there was no longer any necessity of keeping the 2nd exposed, and I ordered it to resume its former position, and to continue from thence to bombard as usual.

During the engagement a small division, commanded by Captain Antonio Alfonso de Lima, entered Laguna Piris, and bombarded all the enemy's camp within range of its guns.

It is needless to tell your Excellency that all my subalterns, without one single exception, fulfilled their duty. I have sent to our Government a list of those whom I consider deserving preference in its high consideration.

The 2nd Division suffered but slight damage, and had not a single killed or wounded.

The 3rd Division suffered considerably, as your Excellency yourself saw, and is being now repaired with the greatest promptitude. It had one sailor seriously wounded, seven slightly, and several contusions; among the latter Commander Delfin, and, among those slightly wounded, Lieutenant Etchevarne, the pilot-major of the squadron.

Having the fortune of being a Christian, I cannot but attribute to the most decided protection of the Almighty the great honour of this victory, which has cost us so little blood of our brave comrades.

I have, &c.

(Signed) BARON DE INHAUMA, *Commander-in-chief.*

To his Excellency Marshal Marquis de Caxias,

&c. &c. &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Official Report of Expedition to Asuncion.

On board Iron-clad "Bahia," Tayi, February 26, 1868.

IN conformity with the verbal instructions I received from your Excellency on the 20th instant, I proceeded on the same day to ascend the river in exploration as far as the city of Asuncion, having under my order the division composed of the iron-clads "Bahia" and "Barroso," and the monitor "Rio Grande," whose crews were reinforced by 100 rank and file from the army.

On the 21st, a little above the mouth of the River Tebicuari, on the side of the Chaco, we fell in with the deposits from which the enemy supplied its army through Timbó and Humaitá, and with our shells we finished the work of setting fire to them, which had begun on our approach. We endeavoured to seize the despatch-boat "Pirabebé," which was there on guard, but we had to content ourselves with taking only the patacho "Angelica," abandoned by the "Pirabebé," which was towing it. We set fire to it not to retard our march, as it contained provisions. In our passage we destroyed the electric telegraph in the villages on the coast which were all abandoned, and threw into the river a piece of ordnance of 24, mounted as a field piece, with all its accessories as well as two cartloads of ammunition which we found in Villa Franca, and in several guard-houses we disposed in the same way of various carts. There was everywhere abundance of cattle, particularly as far as Villa Franca, and we seized 150 sheep for the consumption of our men.

We also seized all the canoes and means of fluvial transport we came across, breaking them to pieces, and using for the furnaces what was otherwise unserviceable. On the 24th at last, at nine in the morning, we found ourselves in front of Asuncion, having navigated the 65 leagues that measure between it and Villa del Pilar, without meeting with the slightest resistance. Nevertheless in Tacombú, a point near the capital, we were received by a fortress with a fire from, I believe, 68-pounders. I chastised this audacity by a bombardment of two hours, which I suspended, when on proceeding further I saw the American, French and Italian flags hoisted naturally in their respective consulates. The smoke that issued from Lopez's palace, into which we threw several shells, and the fall of like projectiles into the Arsenal, make me suppose that these two buildings must have suffered considerably. In the port we only saw the steamers "Paraguay" and "Rio Blanco" foundered. We acquired the certainty that the town can offer but little defence, and that it would be easy to take it by disembarking at San Antonio, three leagues lower down. The presence of our iron-clads in these waters has the advantage of undeceiving for ever the credulous, to whom Lopez taught to believe that his Humaitá was an insuperable barrier, whilst on the other hand it must have disheartened the most inveterate partisans of the tyrant.

The Brazilian flag was waiving triumphantly after so much fighting in the place which we were forcibly led through the actual war in vindication of the insult it had suffered. The object of my mission being thus fulfilled, and not thinking it proper to remain, I returned here, where I anchored this morning at 10 o'clock.

The only occurrence on our return was having been hostilized by shots from the mouth of the Tebicuari, fired by Paraguayan ambuscades, which were, however, driven off by musket fire, and grape-shot from on board, not, however, without causing four casualties from contusions among our men, two of which belonged to the "Brazil," and two to "Rio Grande."

In communicating to your Excellency, as is my duty, the manner in which I have discharged my present commission, I confidently hope, that all my acts will deserve your Excellency's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DELFIN C. DE CÁRVALHO,
Captain Commanding Division.

To his Excellency Marshal Marquis de Caxias,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 20.

Señor Benitez to Lord Stanley.—(Received April .)

(Translation.)

My Lord, *Paraguayan Legation, Paris, April* 21, 1868.

THE news from the Plate which reached Lisbon on the 2nd instant, the day on which I had the honour of addressing my former note to your Excellency from Paris, might at first have made the timeliness of that document appear problematical; but now that we know the real extent of what was done by the squadron and the army of Brazil on the 19th of February, and that it is calculated to influence but slightly, or not at all, the duration and results of the war, I think I may have the honour of returning to the subject of my former note, for the purpose of completing a suggestion which I there brought forward, on the means of causing further progress to be made in the freedom of river-navigation if a Treaty of Peace should be brought to bear through the mediation of the maritime powers.

I had the honour of saying to your Excellency the other day that a Treaty of Peace in which the allies on one side, Paraguay on the other, and the maritime Powers to whose friendly mediation its promotion would be owing, should undertake to respect, and to cause to be respected, the principle already asserted in internal laws, of the free navigation of the direct and indirect affluents of the Plate, might be the most efficacious means of finishing the present war once for all, fiscal and financial as it is in its causes and aims on the part of its promoters, the allies, however they may dissemble this; and of making its repetition purposeless and impossible in future.

But what would be the practical means of making the participation of England, France, and the United States, for example, as neutral and mediating Powers, effective in such a stipulation contained in a Treaty of Peace which would only have to be signed by the belligerents? This is the point which I left unexplained, and which I now beg to submit to your Excellency's indulgent consideration. I believe, my Lord, that the means of doing this already exists in the nature of the things themselves, and it would consist in getting the belligerents to undertake by an Article in their Treaty of Peace to adhere to and subscribe the Treaties on River Navigation of 10th of July, 1853, which bear the signatures of England, France, and the United States, but which are without those of Brazil, the Oriental State, and Buenos Ayres, countries bordering on the rivers which were the subject of those Treaties; for that reason the door was left open for the adhesion of those countries which now make war on Paraguay, the VIIth Article being conceived in the following terms:—

"On réserve particulièrement à Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Brésil, et aux Gouvernements du Paraguay de Bolivie et de l'Etat Oriental de l'Uruguay, de pouvoir prendre part au présent Traité, dans le cas où ils seraient disposés à appliquer ses principes à la partie des fleuves Parana, Paraguay, et Urugnay, sur laquelle ils peuvent posséder respectivement des droits riverains."

With the exception of Paraguay, which had no need to give that adhesion as it had already signed a similar Treaty at the beginning of the same year, neither Brazil, nor the Oriental State, nor Buenos Ayres (whose province protested against the Treaties of July) has taken part in them up to the present time. For the reason given, I believe that Paraguay would not hesitate to give it adhesion to the Treaties of July, if it should be necessary, in order that they might be as a common and general law for the free navigation of all the affluents of the Plate.

Neither would the Argentine Republic have any plausible reason for refusing that confirmation, which the signatory Powers of the July Treaties would have the right, for more reasons than one, to demand of it, considering that those Treaties were made by the Argentine Confederation, and protested against by the Province of Buenos Ayres during the temporary separation which it maintained, and which has not received them since its incorporation with the nation. Without this precaution it might return to-morrow to that same isolation, and, concurring in the views of Brazilian policy, might disavow, as that Empire does, the stipulations and principles of the Treaties of 10th July, 1853, alleging that it never expressly and definitively accepted them.

I think, my Lord, that this opportunity should not be lost of putting an end to that ambiguity in the attitude of Buenos Ayres which so much affects the practical results of those Treaties, that province being the immediate possessor of the island of Martin Garcia, the key to the navigation of the affluents of the Plate.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) GREGORIO BENITEZ.

No. 21.

Lord Stanley to Señor Benitez.

M. le Chargé d'Affaires, *Foreign Office, April* 27, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, having reference to the present state of affairs between Brazil and her allies, on the one side, and the Republic of Paraguay on the other.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 22.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 2.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, March* 25, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of February, reporting the departure of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" for Paraguay, I regret to have to inform your Lordship that Lieutenant and Commander Bushe of that vessel has addressed a despatch (copy of which is herewith inclosed) to Rear-Admiral Ramsay stating that, for urgent military reasons, the allied Commander-in-chief, Marquis of Caxias, has distinctly declined to allow, in the present state of warlike operations, Her Majesty's gun-boat to proceed to Curuzu.

On the receipt of the above despatch I immediately went to Monte Video to confer with Señor Amaral, the Brazilian Special Envoy, as I deemed it advisable to endeavour to arrive at a favourable solution of this unexpected difficulty without having recourse to any formal diplomatic steps which might, I feared, lead hereafter to discussions between Her Majesty's Government and that of Brazil.

I found Señor Amaral most conciliatory in his professions ; but he stated that, in his opinion, a Commander-in-chief was the only competent judge in such matters, and that he could not, therefore, even take upon himself to advise compliance with the, as he admitted, very reasonable request of Her Majesty's Government. He would, however, at once communicate officially to his Government and report privately to the Marquis of Caxias the conversation I had held with him.

I reminded his Excellency that the refusal to permit the passage of Her Majesty's gun-boat to Curuzú would not only cause a painful impression on Her Majesty's Government, but might eventually involve Brazil in several important and embarrassing questions with the neutral Powers. All access to Paraguay, and the territories beyond it, had now been virtually cut off for years by the Brazilian blockade maintained at the entrance of the Paraguay River, and it was very doubtful how much longer neutral Powers could be reasonably expected to put up with the great loss and inconvenience occasioned by this measure. Both banks of that river up to Curuzú had been for a long time in the undisturbed possession of the allies, and I could not admit that the presence of a British vessel of war below that point and in the rear of the rearmost division of the Brazilian fleet could possibly interfere with the naval operations above that point. I likewise reminded his Excellency that several neutral men-of-war had, on previous occasions, proceeded beyond Curuzú, and that no objection had been raised to the presence of the "Doterel" off that place, at a time when the operations in question were in a far less advanced stage than at present.

On my return to this place I called on Señor Elizalde, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who seems anxious to further the views of Her Majesty's Government, and has promised to write at once to the Argentine Commander-in-chief, who had not even been consulted by Marshal Caxias when permission was refused to allow Her Majesty's gun-boat to proceed to her destination.

I have also written, unofficially, to Marshal Caxias, and will await his reply to my communication before taking any further steps, as I hope the difficulty will prove to be only of a very temporary nature.

I have addressed a despatch to Rear-Admiral Ramsay (copy of which is likewise inclosed), suggesting that the "Linnet" should, in the meanwhile, remain stationed at the Tres Bocas, the position designated for her to occupy by the allied General-in-chief; and that his Excellency should be requested to forward, by flag of truce, a communication from Lieutenant and Commander Bushe notifying to President Lopez the presence of Her

Majesty's gun-boat, and the object with which she has been sent by Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, "*Linnet*," *at Corrientes, March* 14, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I left this port on the forenoon of the 10th instant, and anchored off Itapira the same evening. I then called on the Brazilian Commodore, Mamede Simoes da Silva, on board the steam-sloop "Ivahy," and informed him that I was the bearer of a letter from the Minister Plenipotentiary of Brazil, to the Marquis of Caxias, and requested him to grant me an order for the requisite facilities to proceed to the head-quarters of the army.

Commodore Mamede then asked me whether it would not be better for me to forward the letter, and await the answer there, thus avoiding the journey, &c. In reply, I mentioned my orders, and asked him whether, in short, there was any objection made to my proceeding to head-quarters.

He then told me that he had orders to ask me to forward my despatches, and await an answer at Tres Bocas, the entrance of the Paraguay River. I answered that it was unfortunate, as my orders were positive to deliver the letter, if possible, in person, and that I was most anxious to do so. After some reflection, the Commodore told me that such being the case, he would cause horses and an escort to be ready for me in the morning. Accordingly I landed at daylight on the 11th, accompanied by a Belgian officer in the Brazilian service, named Peterkin (to whom I had a letter of introduction from Mr. Gould), whose ready tact and knowledge of the Portuguese language were of great assistance to me. On the arrival of the horses with an escort of six lancers, under an officer, we left Itapiru.

On arriving at the camp of Tuyu-ti, commanded by Major-General De Argollo Ferrão, that officer inviting M. Peterkin and myself to breakfast with him; we stayed there for an hour.

The position is strongly entrenched, with field-pieces at the salient angles, and occupied by the 2nd Army Corps, 11,500 strong. We reached Tuyu-cué at about 3 P.M.; and having ascertained that the Marquis of Caxias was ready to receive me, I waited upon him, and delivered the letter from the Brazilian Plenipotentiary and one from Mr. Gould into his hands. After reading them attentively, he told me, through an officer who spoke French, that although he was very desirous to meet the wishes of the English Government, at present he thought it inexpedient for the "Linnet" to go beyond Tres Bocas, as she might receive damages in the important operations of war which were then going on in the river, and spoke of the danger from torpedos floating down. He also said two of the Brazilian squadron had been boarded at night by Paraguayans, who might make no distinctions.

In reply, after thanking his Excellency for his solicitude on our behalf, I begged to point out that it would not do for a British officer to inform his Admiral that such reasons prevented his occupying the post assigned to him; and that if such were the only grounds for his refusal, I must request him to permit me to proceed to Curuzú, at the same time mentioning the object for which it was desired to display the British flag within sight of the Paraguayan fortifications.

He then distinctly informed me, that naval operations of the highest importance were actually being carried on at Curuzú; that our presence there might be a cause of serious embarrassment to them; and that urgent military reasons prevented his acceding to my request; at the same time, he said, that he would give orders to Admiral Ignacio to inform me when the moment arrived, that I could ascend the Paraguay without inconvenience to the warlike operations.

Considering that there was no more to be said on the subject, I begged his Excellency to excuse my persistence in what I conceived to be my duty, and thanked him for the facilities he had afforded me to visit him. He then expressed his pleasure at seeing me personally, and asked me to stay as long as I chose at the camp, requesting that I would consider myself his guest. In thanking his Excellency, I informed him of my intention to leave the camp early next morning. I then rode at once to the head-quarters of the Argentine General, Gelly y Obes, which are about three miles from those of the Commander-in-chief, and delivered a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the

Argentine Government to him. Nothing of importance occurred in my interview with him.

On the morning of the 12th I found, from the effects of the severe, and to me unusual, exercise of a day's riding over heavy ground, in extreme heat, and for two hours under heavy rain, I was absolutely unable to return, as I had intended, to Itapirú. I was therefore compelled to avail myself of the hospitable offer of the Marquis for that day; and I am bound to say, that nothing could exceed the kindness and courteousness I received, not only from the Marquis of Caxias and his Staff, but from all the Brazilian officers with whom I came in contact.

I profited by my enforced stay to visit the hospitals, which are near the head-quarters; they are very clean, well ventilated, and free from offensive smells; the patients seem very well cared for, and most liberally provided with every requisite. I observed that the Paraguayan and Brazilian wounded were mixed, and treated without distinction. A medical officer who went round with me, informed me that 70 per cent. of the wounded were saved. There is no cholera whatever in the Brazilian army, but much intermittent fever.

So far as I can judge, the Brazilian army is very well armed, clothed, fed, and disciplined; the horses are all in very good condition; the camp is remarkably clean, and odourless, forming in this respect a striking contrast to that of their Argentine allies. I was informed that its present strength is 36,000, of which 8,000 are cavalry; the Argentine army is 4,000 strong; and the Uruguayan 200 or 300.

The Marquis of Caxias did me the honour to point out to me, on a large plan, the position of the army, and told me that he considered that Lopez was now completely cut off from communication with the Chaco, and that the resistance of the Polygon, forming the Paraguayan position, could therefore only depend on its internal resources.

About 4,500 men are at Tayi, on the Paraguay above Humaitá, 11,500 at Tuyu-ti, and the remainder at Tuyu-cué.

An almost continuous bombardment was going on from the Brazilian squadron, but no approaches whatever are being made on the land side, to the Paraguayan lines; the squadron above the chains is supplied with coals and provisions by convoys from Itapirú.

From the summit of a high platform I clearly saw the Paraguayan position; also the masts of six Brazilian vessels in the river beyond, two of which are the wooden steam-sloops "Bibiribi" and "Magé," which passed Curupaiti, the former untouched, the latter was struck three times, one man being wounded.

At daylight, on 13th I left Tuyu-cué, arriving on board this ship at 2 P.M. I left as soon as possible for Tres Bocas, anchoring the same evening off the Island of Cerrito, at the entrance of the River Paraguay.

This morning I called upon the Senior Naval Officer, the Captain of the corvette "Parahiba" (undergoing repairs at the Arsenal), I was informed by him that it would probably be fifteen days at least before Admiral Ignacio would intimate to me that I was at liberty to ascend the river; and that if in the meantime I chose to lie at Corrientes, which is about twenty miles off, he would forward to me any notice on the subject.

Having ascertained that soft bread cannot be procured for the ship's company at Cerrito, which is supplied from Commodore's Albin's squadron at Curuzú (the bakery on the island being submerged), and that it would be seldom possible to obtain fresh beef there, being desirous to economize the provisions on board, and considering that my presence at Tres Bocas could serve no useful purpose, I decided to return to this port; and leaving Cerrito in the afternoon, anchored here this evening.

The heat has been very great; there are five men in the sick list, two from slight sun-strokes, two from severe diarrhœa, and one from a slight wound.

A steamer leaves this port to-morrow morning, by which I shall forward this letter, open, to the care of Mr. Gould, to whom I have also to inclose a letter from the Marquis of Caxias.

I trust you will be pleased to approve of my proceedings, and I have, &c.

(Signed) C. PERCY BUSHE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

Mr. Gould to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, March* 22, 1868.

IN consequence of the unexpected refusal of the Commander-in-chief of the allied forces to permit Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" to proceed beyond the Tres Bocas,

as reported in the despatch, under flying seal, addressed to you on the 14th instant from Corrientes by Lieutenant and Commander Bushe, I have the honour to suggest :—

1. That Her Majesty's gun-boat should, for the present, be stationed at the Tres Bocas, the nearest accessible point to the position she was designed to occupy in conformity with the instructions of Her Majesty's Government.

2. That Lieutenant and Commander Bushe should request the allied Commander-in-chief to forward, by flag of truce, a communication, notifying to President Lopez the arrival of Her Majesty's vessel under his command in the immediate vicinity of the Paraguayan positions, for the purpose of conveying away the British subjects still unjustifiably detained in Paraguay, notwithstanding the earnest and repeated representations of Her Majesty's Government on the subject.

I have the honour likewise to submit to your favourable consideration the draft of the note to be addressed to President Lopez by Lieutenant and Commander Bushe in the event of your acceding to the foregoing suggestions.

Thus, without infringing in any way on the rights as a belligerent which Marshal Caxias seems to claim, Her Majesty's gun-boat would occupy the nearest accessible position to the Paraguayan camp, and, moreover, President Lopez would be at once made fully aware of her presence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Field-Marshal Lopez.

Très Bocas.

THE Undersigned has the honour to acquaint his Excellency Field Marshal Don F. S. Lopez, President of the Republic of Paraguay, that, in compliance with the orders of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, transmitted to him by his Commander-in-chief, he has arrived with the vessel under his command at the entrance of the River Paraguay, where he, for the present, awaits the delivery to him of the British subjects still unjustifiably detained in Paraguay, notwithstanding the earnest and repeated remonstrances of Her Majesty's Government on the subject.

The Undersigned, &c. (Signed) C. PERCY BUSHE.

No. 23.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 2)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, March 26, 1868.*

SINCE the day on which a portion of the iron-clads forced the passage of Humaitá both the naval and military operations of the allies may be considered to have been at a standstill. The investment of President Lopez's camp was held to be complete on every side but that of the Chaco opposite Humaitá, the communications through which offers most serious difficulties, as for a considerable distance from the right bank of the river it is believed to be nothing but a series of marshes covered with dense forests and jungle. Even this part of the river is exposed to the fire of the Brazilian iron-clads below Humaitá, which a short time ago succeeded in blowing up a Paraguayan steamer attempting to cross over at night to the Chaco. Unfortunately for the allies, the iron-clads above the fortress have, since their return from Asuncion, been unable to co-operate with those below, owing to the want of fuel and ammunition, the transport of which overland from Itapirù in sufficient quantities is found all but impracticable.

On the 21st instant a grand reconnaissance executed along nearly the whole line has forced the conviction on the minds of the allied Generals that President Lopez has succeeded in withdrawing his heavy guns and the greater portion of his troops from his entrenched lines, and retired unmolested to some other position. Whether he intends making a stand at the Tebicuari, where he has a strongly-entrenched camp, or carrying on a guerilla warfare in the interior is a point which yet remains to be determined.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 24.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 2.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, March* 28, 1868.

OFFICIAL information has this moment been received announcing that the allies have taken the whole of the entrenched camp around Humaitá, and sunk two Paraguayan steamers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 25.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 2.)

(Extract.) *Rio de Janeiro, April* 7, 1868.

I AM assured by Senhor Paranagua that the objection made by Marshal Caxias to the passage of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" up the Paraguay was of a mere temporary nature, and caused by the intention of attacking Curupaiti, which has been since taken by the allies.

I did not fail to impress upon his Excellency the importance of her presence at this crisis to the British subjects who have been forcibly detained by President Lopez in open violation of international right, and in contempt of the reclamations of Her Majesty's Government, and I have no doubt but that the Marshal's objections have been since withdrawn. He has been especially instructed by His Imperial Majesty's Government, who have shown a readiness to meet my requests, that I must warmly acknowledge, to afford them every protection in his power.

No reply, it would appear, has been received by Mr. Gould to my last note to Señor Bergès, and I cannot affect to deny that the alarm felt by the relatives of some of the captives may be but too well grounded.

No. 26.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 2.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, April* 7, 1868.

SINCE I had the honour of last addressing your Lordship respecting the war in Paraguay, the allies have continued, however slowly, their successful operations.

An attack by the Paraguayans, in boats, upon the two Brazilian monitors above Humaitá was easily defeated, with fearful loss to the assailants, and little or none on the Brazilian side.

So wanton a sacrifice of the gallant Guarani Indians, whose natural courage has been heightened by the repeated assertion that it is the object of Brazil to reduce them to slavery, has created a very general feeling of indignation against their Ruler.

On the 23rd ultimo a successful attack was made upon Curupaity, and that position was occupied by the Argentine forces, but not, I am informed, without a very heavy loss.

The Government of His Imperial Majesty are in hourly expectation of hearing the result of a general assault upon Humaitá itself, which was thus closely invested.

President Lopez is stated to have fled from this fortress, and to occupy the newly-fortified post on the Tibicuary River.

It is, however, evident that the fall of Humaitá, and the consequent passage of the entire Brazilian squadron, would render his position there wholly untenable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 27.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 4, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of March last, reporting the steps you have taken, in consequence of the refusal of the Marquis of Caxias to allow Her

Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" to proceed to Curuzú; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings as reported in that despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 28.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 5.)

Sir, *Admiralty, May* 4, 1868.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, an extract of a letter from Rear-Admiral Ramsay, dated at Monte Video, the 30th March, reporting that he had ordered Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," to be stationed at Tres Bocas, near the entrance of the Paraguay, for the purpose of receiving the British subjects detained in Paraguay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HENRY G. LENNOX.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Rear-Admiral Ramsay to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.) *Monte Video, March* 30, 1868.

I HAVE remained in my flag-ship at this anchorage since my last general letter of the 29th ultimo.

The "Linnet" arrived off Itapiru on the 10th instant, and her Commander (Lieutenant Bushe) communicated personally with the Brazilian Commander-in-chief (Marquis Caxias), from whom he received the utmost courtesy and kindness, but who made objections to the "Linnet" being stationed at Curuzú, as her presence would be a cause of serious embarrassment and inconvenience to the naval operations now being carried on there; and that it would be inexpedient for the vessel to go beyond Tres Bocas, near the entrance of the Paraguay. I have therefore directed her to be stationed for the present at the Tres Bocas, and instructed Lieutenant Bushe to notify by letter to President Lopez "the arrival of the 'Linnet' in the vicinity of the Paraguayan positions, for the purpose of receiving the British subjects detained in Paraguay;" and to request the Brazilian Commander-in-chief to forward this communication to the Paraguayan lines by a flag of truce.

The "Spider" arrived here from Buenos Ayres on the 17th, and on the 20th proceeded on a visit to Colonia, and to ascertain if there were any merchant-vessels trading to the Uruguay under English colours, to which they were not entitled. She found none, and returned to this anchorage on the 28th.

No. 29.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received May 21.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, April* 10, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th, announcing the occupation by the allies on the 23rd ultimo, of the formidable entrenched positions held by the Paraguayans for the last twenty-three months, I have the honour to add, for your Lordship's information that these lines had been evacuated on the preceding night, and the camp set on fire in different places.

The allies in their advance only encountered a few pickets, except at one or two points, where larger bodies of troops offered a determined resistance attended with some loss to the Brazilians. The Paraguayans are reported to have even succeeded in drawing off the few light field pieces still left in position, and the trophies which fell into the hands of the allies consist merely of some sham wooden guns mounted on the ramparts.

For some time back it had been known that President Lopez had removed the greater part of his troops, heavy artillery, and stores across the river, where it is commanded by the

guns of Humaitá, and thence through the Chaco to a strongly-entrenched camp at the confluence of the Tebicuari and the Paraguay.

The prospect of an early and successful termination of this protracted and most disastrous war seems as distant as ever, notwithstanding this apparently important success on the part of the allies. The Paraguayans, with a force of from 2,000 to 3,000 men, still hold Humaitá, the defences of which on the land side, are described as being of a most formidable character, and are daily being strengthened by the garrison. The investment of this fortress cannot be said to be complete, for, on the river front, it can still communicate by means of canoes, with the road cut through the Chaco by President Lopez. The river having lately fallen considerably, the Brazilian iron-clads can no longer attempt to pass the chain stretched across it. Thus those that so successfully forced the passage, on the 19th of February last, are cut off from the rest of the fleet and their movements crippled, owing to the extreme difficulty of supplying them with fuel and ammunition in sufficient quantities.

President Lopez with the bulk of his forces must by this time be firmly established in his new positions at Tebicuari, where he will probably be able to oppose a prolonged and determined resistance to the further advance of the allies. The latter will scarcely venture to attack him in his present stronghold until after the fall of Humaitá, when they will be enabled to draw their supplies from some convenient point on the river. Otherwise, they would be at too great a distance from their base of operations in a country entirely denuded of resources for the subsistence of an army, and where the transport by land of provisions and ammunition is attended with almost insurmountable difficulties.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 30.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received May* 21.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, April* 14, 1868.

NO event of importance has occurred at the seat of war since the occupation by the allies of the Paraguayan entrenchments. Lieutenant Bushe, of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," merely reports, under date of the 10th instant, that the allies are making active preparations for the siege of Humaitá. They were opening a first parallel, and mounting heavy guns upon it. The ground is, it appears, very favourable for siege operations, and the garrison is reported by deserters to be very short of provisions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 31.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 1.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, April* 26, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th ultimo, relative to the proceedings connected with the presence in the River Paraguay of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet," I hasten to acquaint your Lordship that the Marquis of Caxias forwarded, on the 21st instant, by flag of truce, the communication addressed to President Lopez by Lieutenant and Commander Bushe, in pursuance of the orders transmitted to him at my suggestion by Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 32.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 1.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, April* 26, 1868.

WITH the exception of an occasional but distant bombardment of Humaitá by the allies, nothing of any moment has occurred at the seat of war during the last fortnight.

There are, however, indications which lead to the belief that the Paraguayans may evacuate that fortress from one day to another. They have ceased to reply to the fire of the investing forces; and, judging from the dense masses of smoke which have lately been observed to issue from their positions, it is conjectured they are actively engaged in destroying whatever they have been unable to remove.

If the accounts of deserters are to be relied upon, the garrison is now reduced to 1,200 men, a number totally inadequate to the defence of such extensive works.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 33.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received June* 20.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May* 8, 1868.

LIEUTENANT and Commander Percy Bushe has addressed, under flying-seal, to Rear-Admiral Ramsay an interesting report, copy of which is herewith inclosed, of his proceedings and of the progress of the war up to the 2nd instant.

I have at the same time the honour to submit herewith to your Lordship a translation of the reply of President Lopez to the communication addressed to him by Lieutenant Bushe for the sole purpose of informing his Excellency of the arrival of the "Linnet" at the seat of war.

This note, which is couched in evasive terms, is to the effect that the Paraguayan Government will be ready to re-open the previous negotiations with reference to Her Majesty's subjects, and to make all the concessions in its power, compatible with its actual position, as soon as a Diplomatic Agent presents himself who is duly accredited by Her Majesty's Government for that purpose.

I need not remind your Lordship that, on the occasion of my mission to Paraguay, the question was fully discussed; and that since then Mr. Buckley Mathew, Her Majesty's late Minister to this Republic, addressed to Señor Berges a note warning the Paraguayan Government of the serious responsibility it incurred by not permitting the departure of the British subjects alluded to, which has not even been taken notice of.

The desire of President Lopez to compel foreign Powers to enter into diplomatic relations with him is, I venture to think, very evident; and not long ago he held out a similar inducement to the French Representative here, who, however, declined to entertain it under the circumstances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

(Extract.) "*Linnet,*" *at Curupaiti, April* 23, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to continue the account of my proceedings, in the same manner as my last letter. On the 17th, I visited the Brazilian flag-ship "Princeza," on Admiral the Viscount of Inhauma sending to say that he wished to see me: I called upon him, he was up, though unable to leave his chair. He informed me that on the previous night the garrison of Humaitá had set fire to their supply of coal, and he considered the place would be in possession of the allies in eight days' time. Commodore Alvin also told me that, should the "Linnet" require to go to Corrientes, there would be no difficulty as to her return to this port.

Considering that after the fall of Humaitá it will be our object to proceed, if possible, to Asuncion, where we may be long detained; I thought at first on getting this information of going to Corrientes at once, to fill up with coal, procure money, spirits, and some necessary stores, returning here without delay; but I finally decided to await the coming of the United States' steamer "Wasp," now daily expected at this place.

On the 19th I ascertained that an attempt is being made in the vicinity of Curupaiti to sap up to the defences of Humaitá; a deep trench, now about one and a quarter mile long, is being cut in front of the 2nd Division which will secure it against surprise, a battery of 11 rifled 12-pounders, and a 32-pounder Whitworth, is placed at its centre,

and shells are thrown from it into the fortress occasionally; the squadron also opens fire, more or less heavily, from time to time.

On the 22nd I received a letter from the Marquis Caxias, dated 21st instant, in answer to mine dated 4th April, inclosing a receipt from an officer of the garrison of Humaitá for my letter to President Lopez of the same date. I inclose the originals and also translations of both. I at once forwarded a copy of the translation to Mr. Gould.

On this day I again visited the "Princeza" and saw Commodore Alvin; he informed me that the Marquis of Caxias was coming on board next day to concert measures of attack with the Admiral; I then asked him whether, in the event of the capture of Humaitá, the "Linnet" would be permitted to accompany the Brazilian fleet in ascending the River Paraguay. He replied that he could not give me a positive answer on that point. I then requested him to ascertain from the Marquis of Caxias, when he came on board, what his intentions were on the subject, and he promised to do so and let me know. He also informed me that the "Wasp" would be permitted to ascend to Curupaiti, but would not be allowed to go further up the river. He told me the strength of the garrison of Humaitá was believed to be 4,000 men, and that, on the north side, a battery of nine guns was established within musket shot of the works.

We now obtain fresh beef regularly, the bread contractor having obligingly made arrangements to enable us to do so, and vegetables are sent up to us from Corrientes.

April 29, 1868.

On the 25th I again saw Commodore Alvin, who informed me that the Marquis of Caxias had assented to our accompanying the Brazilian fleet; in the event above referred to, he also said that the attack would take place in eight or ten days' time.

On the evening of the 26th the United States' war-steamer "Wasp" arrived, and anchored near this ship. It appears that the delay in her arrival was caused by her running aground either five or six times on the passage up the river: she only draws seven feet of water.

On the forenoon of the 28th I called upon the Brazilian Admiral, who has now resumed his duties, on finding that the Marquis of Caxias had come to Curupaiti, for a council of war. I paid him a visit of courtesy, at Major Argollo's quarters, as did Lieutenant-Commander Kirkland of the "Wasp;" nothing of importance passed at the interview, which was very short. I was told a great attack was contemplated on the 1st May; I understand it is intended to occupy a promontory of the Chaco, opposite to Humaitá, from which up to the present time the garrison has been supplied with provisions: this would complete the investment of that fortress. On the same afternoon a heavy explosion took place, which I heard to-day was caused by a shell from one of the monitors exploding a magazine at Timbó, a battery of 10 or 12 guns about seven miles above Humaitá on the Chaco side. This morning a torpedo was picked up about half a cable's length astern of us by a boat from the guard-ship "Ipyranga;" it appears, however, that it had not floated down but had long been secured there, and had become visible by the falling of the river. Commodore Alvin has told me that more than 100 torpedoes have been picked up by Brazilian boats, some containing over 300 lbs. of powder, and that they are no longer regarded as dangerous to handle.

This forenoon I received an answer to the letter to President Lopez; I inclose the original and also a translation. I at once sent a copy of it to Mr. Gould. I have this evening heard from Lieutenant Kirkland that he has already received an answer from the Marquis of Caxias, inclosing a receipt from the Paraguayan authorities for the letters to Mr. Washburn; it seems therefore that the statement as to President Lopez refusing to receive any despatches except they are addressed to himself, must be accepted with some reservation.

I purpose to await the result of the approaching attack here, and subsequently to proceed to Corrientes, with the object before mentioned, watering from the river Parana which is good and wholesome, before joining the Paraguay near the Tres Bocas, thus avoiding condensing, and returning to this place without delay. I am told by the Pilot that it would take this ship four days (stopping at night) to steam from this place to Asuncion.

May 2, 1868.

Yesterday, Humaitá was heavily bombarded by the fleet and land batteries for several hours; two explosions took place within the fortress, which did not return the fire at all.

I walked to the trenches, where I met Major-General Argollo, who told me that on the previous night troops had been landed on the Chaco side of the river, and that

he had just received news that a skirmish had taken place near Timbó, to the advantage of the allies: the communication of the garrison must at last be entirely cut off, but from my own observations I think the reduction of Humaitá will be a work of some duration and difficulty.

At the General's invitation I ascended a high "mangrullo" or look-out platform in advance of the trenches, and not more than a mile from the Paraguayan out-works from which I had a very good view of the fortress; I saw a great number of cattle, certainly many hundreds, grazing within it, the strength is variously estimated at from 3,000 to 4,000 men; water, or marshy ground, is in front of the Paraguayan lines as far as I could see; two or three fires were caused in the houses by shells bursting, but were soon extinguished.

The trenches of the allies now extend from the river below to the river above Humaitá, except where impassable marshes separate them; the labour is severe, as the soil is in most parts a hard tenacious clay, impermeable by water, which can only be worked with picks, but no interruption is given to the works by the Paraguayans, except occasionally by a few shells from mortars. General Argollo said they might have to sap up to the works, and take the place by assault, and from what I have seen I should think that a capture by coup-de-main on the land side is very unlikely, and the fear of torpedoes will probably prevent an attempt at one on the river face, I therefore think they can do so, for two or three weeks at least.

I have just received a visit from the Viscount of Inhauma's Secretary on behalf of his Admiral; he informs me that a sharp engagement took place this morning in the Chaco, the result of which is not yet known, but that the investment of Humaitá is ascertained to be complete. There has been heavy firing on the river side of it all the forenoon.

I intend to leave for Corrientes on the 5th (at which date we should have to condense water if we stayed), and expect to be back on the 8th instant.

The health of the ship's company is not satisfactory, although the weather is now temperate, and the men have not been exposed to sun or rain. Five men are now on the sick list, three of them from remittent fever. I shall ask the Brazilian Admiral to let us lie on our return near the left bank, which is higher, and where we shall be less exposed to malarious exhalations from the Chaco; the former objection that ships were discharging there can no longer be urged.

The Assistant-Surgeon in charge informs me that he considers the men all predispose to fever by extreme annoyance and want of rest, caused by the attacks of venomous insects at night.

I also forward the monthly Returns, and trusting my proceedings will meet your approval.

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

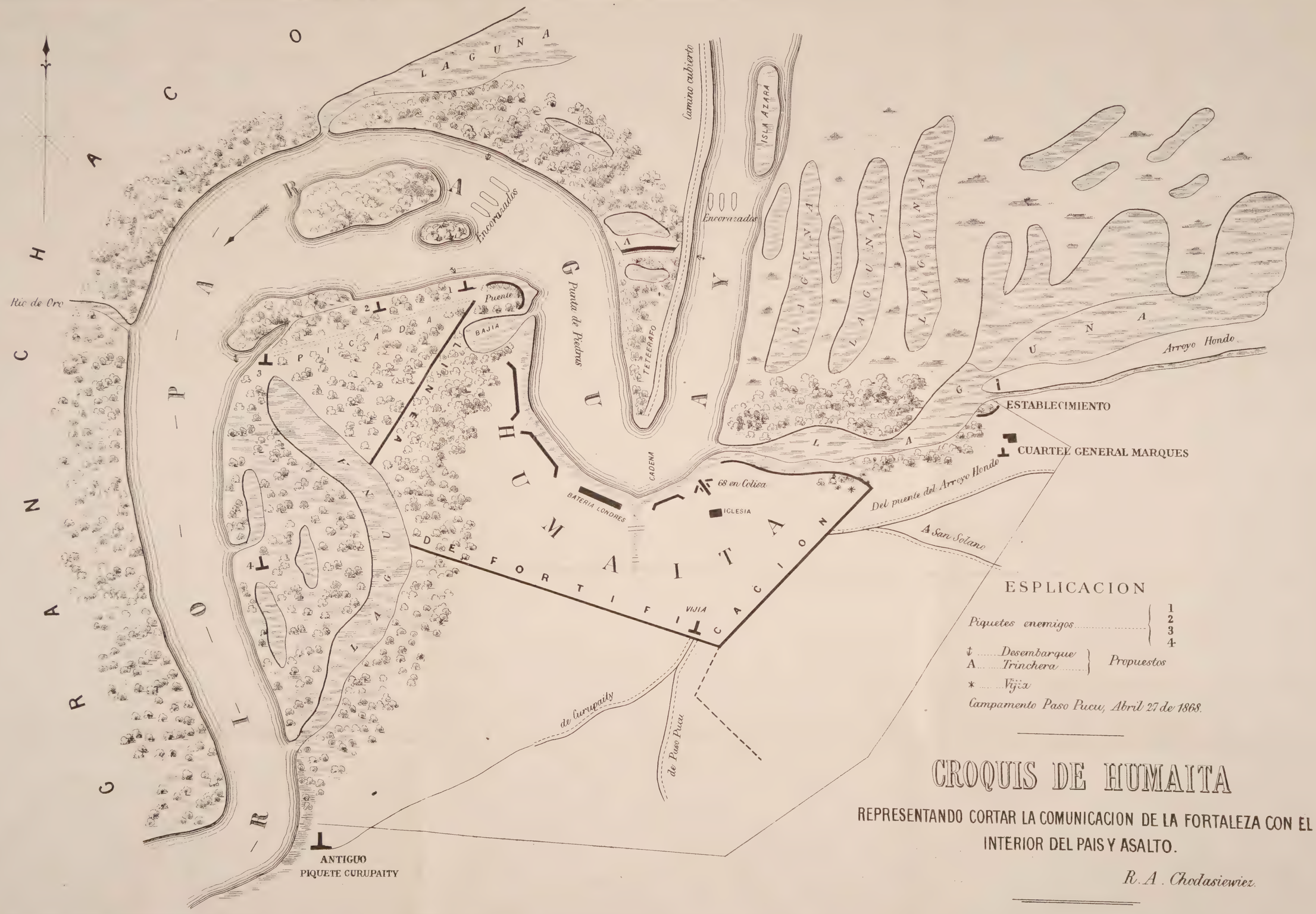
Señor Caminos to Lieutenant and Commander Bushe.

(Translation.) *Head-Quarters, April* 25, 1868.

I HAVE received an order from the Most Excellent Marshal President of the Republic, to answer the letter which you have addressed to his Excellency dated the 4th instant, and which was delivered in our lines on the 21st instant, the tenor of which is as follows:—

"The Undersigned has the honour to inform his Excellency Marshal Don Francisco S. Lopez, President of the Republic of Paraguay, that in fulfilment of orders from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which have been transmitted to him by his Commander-in-chief, he has arrived with the ship under his command at the entrance of the River Paraguay, where, for the present, he awaits the delivery of the British subjects detained in Paraguay."

Understanding that the British subjects detained in Paraguay to whom you refer, are those who find themselves in it, in the same condition as the citizens and subjects of other friendly nations, who at the breaking out of the war did not leave the country (as those who desired it did freely in British and other ships), and since have not been able to do so in consequence of the said war, I have the honour to inform you that this question having been initiated by a diplomatic Agent of Her Britannic Majesty's Government without at that time (except in the case of some families) an arrangement having been arrived at, that would facilitate the departure of all those who might have desired to do so, my Government will renew the discussion, and will be disposed to make all the concessions that may be compatible with its present state, as soon as a Diplomatic Agent accredited for that purpose presents himself.



ESPLICACION

Piquetes enemigos 1 2 3 4

† ..... Desembarque
A ..... Trinchera
} Propuestos

* ..... Vijia

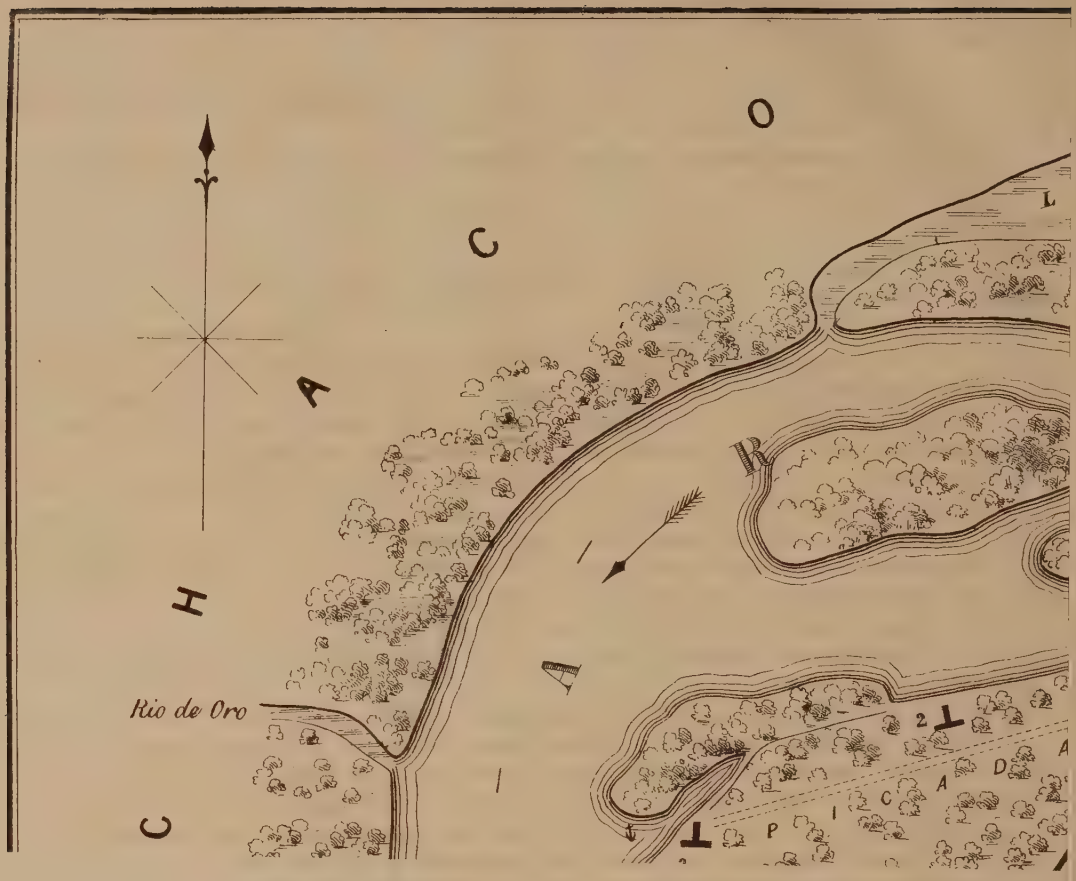
Campamento Paso Pucu, Abril 27 de 1868.

CROQUIS DE HUMAITA

REPRESENTANDO CORTAR LA COMUNICACION DE LA FORTALEZA CON EL INTERIOR DEL PAIS Y ASALTO.

R. A. Chodasiewiez.

Harrison & Sons Lith. 45 & 46 St. Martins Lane



without at that time (except in the case of some families) an arrangement having been arrived at, that would facilitate the departure of all those who might have desired to do so, my Government will renew the discussion, and will be disposed to make all the concessions that may be compatible with its present state, as soon as a Diplomatic Agent accredited for that purpose presents himself.

Otherwise I can declare, that with the exception of those who belonged to the hostile ranks, and have fallen into our power, there is no British subject detained in Paraguay for any reason.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) LUIS CAMINOS.

No. 34.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received June 20.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May 12, 1868.*

THE investment of Humaitá is at last complete, and the garrison, variously estimated at from 5,000 to 1,200 men, is reduced to depend solely on whatever supplies may exist within the fortress. The repeated and desperate efforts made by the Paraguayans to prevent the allies from establishing themselves in the peninsula of the Chaco formed by the river, lead to the supposition that the garrison drew their principal supplies from without, and will consequently soon be forced to surrender.

The allies had to contend with great difficulties in carrying out the above operation. Two columns of troops, each about 2,000 men strong, landed simultaneously in the Chaco, one above Humaitá, composed of Brazilians, and the other below, of Argentines; the whole force being under the command of the Argentine General, Rivas.

The Brazilian column effected a landing under fire, but soon gained the position they were to occupy.

The Argentines were not so fortunate, and employed two whole days and nights hewing their way through a dense swampy jungle. Whilst so engaged, one of their advanced battalions, formed entirely of foreigners, was driven back, and completely cut to pieces before reinforcements could come up. Nevertheless, they eventually succeeded in forming a junction with the other column, and speedily entrenched themselves.

On the 5th instant, at dawn, a Paraguayan force resolutely advanced on them from the Chaco: but were driven back after an obstinate struggle with very heavy loss, owing chiefly to the fire they were exposed to on either flank from the two divisions of Brazilian iron-clads.

Other attacks in larger force are shortly expected to be made on this strong and important position; but the allies are now so firmly established that no apprehensions appear to be entertained of their being dislodged.

A strange rumour has lately been widely circulated, to the effect that President Lopez has, as a last resource, armed and organized large bodies of women; though up to the present time, it only rests, as far as I have been able to ascertain, on some vague statements in the Paraguayan official paper the "Semanario.' For some time back, the women in Paraguay have received a species of military organization with the object of superintending and directing their efforts to meet the wants of the men who are all in the field.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

P.S.—I have the honour to inclose herewith a sketch of the scene of the late operations which has just appeared in one of the best informed newspapers of this city on military matters.

G. F. G.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Sketch of Humaitá.

No. 35.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 22, 1868.*

IT is scarcely necessary for me to point out to you, with reference to the British subjects who are detained in Paraguay, that your attention should be steadily directed to

the rescue of these persons; but you must be careful at the same time not to raise inconvenient questions, nor attempt to send Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" to Asuncion, against the wish of the Brazilian Admiral. In the event, however, of the Admiral declining to allow the "Linnet" to proceed thither, you will state the grounds of this refusal to Mr. Mathew, in order that he may make any communication to the Brazilian Government which, pending the receipt of instructions from home with regard to the particular points which may be raised, he may deem prudent or likely to be of service.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 36.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May* 16, 1868.

I AM informed that the allied Generals do not intend to attempt the assault of Humaitá, which, they have good reason to believe, is only provisioned for a two months' siege. They have also ascertained that President Lopez is strongly fortifying a position above the Tebicuari of almost equal strength to that of Humaitá. As an island at this point renders the channel of the river very narrow, it is expected he will endeavour to obstruct it.

According to the last advices from the seat of war of the 11th instant, a fresh attempt has been unsuccessfully made by the Paraguayans to dislodge the allies from the important position they have recently occupied in the Chaco, and the latter have succeeded in destroying some earth-works on that side of the river, which the former were endeavouring to construct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 37.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May* 19, 1868.

I HAVE read with deep interest the correspondence with Señor Benites, the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires in England, relative to the hostilities in the River Plate, inclosed in your Lordship's despatch of the 7th ultimo; and as there are some statements in it which might, I fear, give rise to erroneous conclusions, I venture to submit to your Lordship a few remarks on some of the most important points referred to in the above documents.

Señor Benites attributes the cause of the present war solely to the anxiety of President Lopez to protect the independence of the Republic of Uruguay, and to secure the free navigation of the River Plate and its affluents, menaced by Brazil and the Argentine Confederation.

Such have, indeed, been the specious pretexts put forward by the Paraguayan Government to cover its own ambitious designs.

In my humble opinion, the present war was originally merely a struggle for supremacy, inevitable from the position and opposite aims of the contending parties, but designedly hastened by President Lopez, and further aggravated by his unjustifiable seizure of a Brazilian steamer without any formal declaration of war, and by his unprovoked invasion of a portion of the Argentine territory, which he wantonly suffered to be devastated by his troops.

On the one hand, years before Brazil actively intervened in the Republic of Uruguay, the Paraguayan Government had been incessantly accumulating resources of a warlike kind, and making evident preparations for the approaching contest. On the other, though naturally alarmed at the great military power of Paraguay, and the arrogant and threatening attitude of its despotic Ruler, neither Brazil nor the Argentine Confederation had shown the slightest hostile intentions towards it, and they were consequently both totally unprepared for the desperate struggle in which they suddenly found themselves involved.

Whatever may be the ulterior views of Brazil and the Argentine Confederation as to a liberal commercial policy and the free navigation of the River Plate and its affluents, their present attitude offers a by no means unfavourable contrast to the exclusive and

monopolizing policy invariably pursued by Paraguay. In spite of the industrious habits of its inhabitants, great and undeveloped natural resources, and extraordinary fertility, its foreign trade has ever been very limited, owing to the impediments created by the Government, and the monopolies it maintained, restrictions of every kind have existed with regard to the navigation of the Paraguay. Finally, no encouragement has been held out to immigration, for the small number of foreigners established in the country, principally British subjects, are, with rare exceptions, persons contracted abroad to enter the Government service.

I am not aware whether the Paraguayan Government has made at any time serious efforts to maintain the free navigation of the River Plate and its confluents, but its refusal to renew and perpetuate the Treaty of 1853 with Great Britain proves that, however interested it might be in the free navigation of alien waters, it was by no means so anxious to concede that of its own.

It is difficult to understand how the annexation of the Republic of Uruguay would have materially affected the independence of Paraguay, or menaced the free navigation of the River Plate and its confluents, in the maintenance of which not only the Argentine Confederation but all the maritime Powers, are so seriously interested.

Moreover, it is easy to account for the armed intervention of Brazil, in the Republic of Uruguay, without ascribing to it any ulterior views of actual annexation which, up to the present day, it has, at any rate, not attempted to realize, when the dangerous effects produced on the adjoining Province of Rio Grande do Sul, by the hopelessly disturbed state of that Republic, are duly taken into consideration.

President Lopez, being fully aware how distasteful that intervention was to the great political faction in the Argentine Confederation, which General Mitré had violently expelled from power, and calculating on its efficacious support, suddenly determined upon putting into execution his own and his father's long matured plans.

Owing chiefly to the influence of General Mitré, and the universal indignation aroused by the unjustifiable and harsh proceedings of the Paraguayan Government, President Lopez met with but little support, and Brazil was able to form the Triple Alliance, thus partially avoiding the suspicion with which all the acts of that powerful Empire, in the midst of a number of small and jealous Republics, is not unnaturally viewed by the latter. Great pecuniary and other sacrifices have had to be made to attain this object, and by the timely cession of several disputed territories the neutrality of Bolivia has been effectively secured.

I cannot find any foundation for the supposition that the allies are actuated by any desire to possess themselves of Paraguay, or in any way to compromise its independence, though they may seek to avail themselves of the successful termination of the contest, to insist on the settlement of several long-pending and complicated questions relative to the boundaries of the respective countries, which would, sooner or later, have probably led to war. No difficulty whatever would, I confidently think, be experienced in obtaining from the allies every necessary guarantee of the independence of Paraguay, as well as most liberal and honourable terms of peace, on the sole condition of President Lopez's previous departure from that country.

Nothing short of that last condition would, in my humble opinion, find acceptance with Brazil, whatever concessions might eventually be obtained from the Argentine Confederation.

The position of Uruguay is such at this moment that it can hardly be said to have any voice in the matter.

Brazil, unfortunately, considers her honour, her prestige, and her very existence to depend upon the expulsion of President Lopez, whose conduct towards her previous to and during the war is deemed such as to preclude the possibility of negotiations ever being entered into with Paraguay so long as he does not withdraw from it.

President Lopez has been long aware that his presence is the sole obstacle to an honourable peace, whereby the last remnants of his gallant and devoted people might yet be saved from almost certain destruction; but none who know him believe there is any reason to hope he will ever yield, except at the very last extremity.

The despotic and semi-barbarous power of President Lopez was an anomaly, the disappearance of which will probably be attended with great beneficial results, while its continuance would certainly be a constant source of mistrust and danger to the adjoining States.

To the dilatory tactics of the allies, more than to any other cause, may be attributed the duration of the war; but there are good grounds to hope that, after the fall of Humaitá, which has been closely invested for some time, it will speedily be brought to a satisfactory termination.

Señor Benites is labouring under so evident a delusion, as to the position of the allies being hopeless, that his assertion on that head calls for no comment on my part.

I agree with him that the presence of the British subjects in Paraguay has powerfully contributed to the successful resistance opposed to the advance of the allies; but whether under those circumstances Her Majesty's Government would be justified in insisting on their being permitted to retire from that country, is a question I do not consider myself competent to discuss. There are, however, among them many women and children who do not in any way contribute to the defence, but must nevertheless remain uselessly exposed to great hardships and dangers.

He is mistaken when he asserts that all the British subjects in question are bound by contracts and willingly remain in Paraguay. The great majority of them must be serving without contracts, for the greater number of those made in England, for only short periods, had expired when I was in the Paraguayan camp last autumn, as President Lopez' Secretary, Señor Caminos, himself informed me, with the object of proving that these British subjects willingly remained in the country. I am unable to say whether they have since been renewed, but I am positive none of the British subjects I had occasion to converse with were any longer bound to any written or verbal engagement, with the exception of Mr. Thompson who had accepted military service.

Almost all would have most willingly left with me had a favourable opportunity presented itself; and I was informed by them, as well as by the three widows who were permitted to embark with me on board the "Doterel," that a great number of the British subjects in Asuncion were equally desirous of leaving the country.

With one single exception all the British subjects in Paraguay are, I believe, in the Government service.

The permission for them to leave viâ Bolivia, was, I consider, merely a shallow pretext to avoid the real question at issue, and Señor Benites must be fully aware that this route is all but impracticable, especially for women and children, though it has become better known and been improved since his departure from America. In the first place it is necessary to ascend the Paraguay for hundreds of miles, to either Corrumba or Bahia Negra, which would have had to be done in canoes as the few steamers on the river were urgently required elsewhere. The least impracticable route is from Bahia Negra, whence a path is said to be cut through the forests to Santa Cruz, the most eastern town in Bolivia, a journey generally performed by the natives in fifteen days. The distance from the latter place to Cobija, the nearest Bolivian seaport, is very considerable, and across an especially mountainous country with a scanty population and hardly any roads.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 38.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 3.)

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, May* 24, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship copies of a despatch and its inclosures, addressed by Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Rear-Admiral Ramsay, which reached me this day under flying seal, together with a copy of the despatch I have since written to Lieutenant Bushe, explaining to him the object which I had in view, when I ventured to request him to endeavour to ascertain whether Her Majesty's gun-boat under his orders would be permitted, in case of any contemplated attack by the allies on Asuncion, to convey to a place of safety the British subjects who might be in that town.

Inclosure 1 in No. 38.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *"Linnet," at Curupaiti, May* 14, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I left Corrientes on the 13th instant at 10 A.M., arriving at this port at 7.30 the same evening, having purchased sugar, coffee in lieu of cocoa, and caña in lieu of rum to complete us for seventy days.

I have arranged to obtain newly baked biscuits and money, when required, from M. Metzler, bread contractor to the Brazilian fleet. As I reckon on being generally able to procure fresh meat I purchased no salt provisions.

No man is now on the sick list from fever and ague.

Our position is near the left bank of the river, opposite the guard-ship. I consider it an improvement on our former one, and trust we shall find it more healthy.

The United States' war-steamer "Wasp" was here, but she left this afternoon to lie at Corrientes. Lieutenant-Commander Hickland told me that he had received no answer as yet from Mr. Washburn, and would not return to this port except he heard that that gentleman intended to come to Curupaiti to embark on board the "Wasp," which he considered improbable.

I called upon the Brazilian Admiral and Commodore Alvin; I learned from them there had been severe fighting on the Chaco, opposite Humaitá, but that the allies are firmly established there, and that a communication would soon be open by which coal and provisions could be sent across the promontory to the iron-clad above Humaitá in forty minutes, thus avoiding the great expense and labour of supply them from Curupaiti by carts. The Admiral spoke of an attack as likely to be made in a few days. I have heard from another person, who I believe to be well informed, that it has been ascertained that Humaitá is well supplied with provisions, and that it would take some months to reduce it by famine, and that, therefore, to avoid the slow process of regular advances it had been proposed to assault it at all points, the garrison being, I believe, at the utmost not to exceed 3,000 men.

Such an attack could hardly succeed without very heavy loss, if at all, and I think it unlikely that it will be made.

May 20, 1868.—On the 16th I received a letter from Mr. Gould, of which I inclose a copy and a duplicate of my answer. I trust you will consider I have done rightly in deciding to wait till I can see my way more clearly before entering upon any difficult, and apparently disputed, question with the Commander-in-chief of the allies, and also in plainly indicating the conditions upon which alone I am at liberty to act towards the belligerents.

The weather continues fine and temperate, the falling of the river appears to have drained the marshes on the adjacent plateau to a great extent; there are no fresh cases of fever and ague, and but two on the sick list, only one attributable to the locality, viz., from ulcers caused by mosquitos: these, however, are less annoying than formerly. We are not subject to any such annoyances as I was led to expect from the vicinity of the slaughtering ground.

The bombardment of Humaitá continues at intervals more or less heavily. Some 68-pounders are placed in the batteries of the second Army Corps; at some points the allied advance posts are within rifle-shots of the outworks, but there appears to be little, if any, exchange of small arm fire. Yesterday I called upon Major-General Argollo, I learned from him that a column of Paraguayan Cavalry, and another of Infantry, had shown themselves during the day in the rear of the allied army near San Solano, and that a force had been detached to watch them. Also that the Paraguayan forces in the Chaco had been increased, and it was expected that to-day they would attempt to dislodge the allied forces there. As the allies have 6,000 men there, entrenched with iron-clads on each flank, it would be hard to do so, but it is evident the Paraguayans no longer mean to remain solely on the defensive.

The river still continues to fall, and as I mentioned in my letter to Mr. Gould, our pilot, who is well acquainted with the River Paraguay, has told me that he considers if it continues to do so for ten or twelve days longer the ship could not ascend above Guardia Palmas, or at farthest Vedela, the former being nine, the latter seven leagues below Asuncion, until another rise took place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. PERCY BUSHE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 38.

Mr. Gould to Lieutenant and Commander Bushe.

Sir, *Buenos Ayres, May* 7, 1868.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your latter of proceedings of the 2nd instant, which will be duly forwarded to Rear-Admiral Ramsay by the first opportunity.

At the same time I have to thank you for communicating to me the note addressed to you by President Lopez, and to acquaint you that it is my intention not to take any steps in the matter to which you refer until I shall have been furnished by Her Majesty's Government with the necessary instructions for my guidance.

As the British subjects, for whose protection the vessel under your command has been specially sent to Paraguay, will be exposed to imminent dangers in the event of an attack upon Asuncion by the allied forces, it is hardly requisite for me to point out to you how desirable it would be that you should reach that town in time to be able concert measures for the protection of the British subjects in question.

I have, therefore, to request you to endeavour to ascertain if possible the views of the Brazilian Commander-in-chief with reference to this contingency, and to communicate them to me with the least possible delay.

You will, of course, be guided by circumstances, and avoid, if possible, giving any cause of offence to the Brazilian Commander-in-chief; but, nevertheless, I may as well observe to you that Her Majesty's Government hold that it may fairly be stated as a proposition consistent with international law that the rights of the neutral subjects to protection are as strong as the right of the belligerent to blockade, and his belligerent right is not violated by the passage up a river of a ship of war belonging to a neutral State for the sole purpose, and with the sole consequence of saving the lives of the subjects of that State, in those exceptional circumstances which render it very probable, from the condition of the belligerents, that those lives would otherwise be sacrificed, though, as a matter of comity, convenience, and respect, it would be proper to obtain the consent of the blockading Power to the passage of such vessel of war.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 38.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Mr. Gould.

Sir, "*Linnet*," *at Curupaiti, May* 19, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated 3rd and 7th May on the 14th and 16th instant respectively.

With reference to the latter, I understand that you request me to ascertain from the Brazilian Commander-in-chief whether, in the event of an impending attack upon the city of Asuncion, he will permit this ship to precede the Brazilian fleet to that city, so as to concert measures for the safety of the British subjects supposed to be there, avoiding, if possible, giving any cause of offence. At the same time you state the views of Her Majesty's Government upon certain rights of neutrals, but whether merely for my own information and guidance, or with the object of their views also communicated to the Commander-in-chief of the allies, I do not apprehend as clearly as I could wish.

In connection with the above subject, I beg to submit the following remarks for your consideration.

The Brazilian squadron above Humaitá having already once ascended to Asuncion, it is obvious that as far as is positively known, there is nothing to prevent them doing so again at any moment and shelling the place if they think proper, at least in the case of those of light draught, and I am informed that the monitors only draw about three feet of water. I may here mention that we draw eight feet of water, and that I am told by the pilot on board, that the river continuing to fall at its present rate it will, in a few days, be very doubtful if this ship could ascend within seven leagues of Asuncion.

Inferring that you only wish me to ascertain the point above-mentioned as subject to the contingency of the capture of Humaitá, I beg to submit my opinion, that should the ascent be obtained of the Commander-in chief of the allies, it would still be imprudent for this ship to precede the Brazilian fleet, without also obtaining the consent of the Paraguayan Government, with whom I am not authorized to open any further communications.

It is reported that other positions will be found to be fortified, and torpedoes laid down in the river. These considerations, however, would not deter me from attempting to proceed to Asuncion if I were certain that such a course would meet the approval of the Commander-in-chief, but it it my duty to point out to you, that I have positive orders from him to avoid giving "any possible cause of offence to either of the belligerent parties" of which he has again reminded me in the last communication I have received from him dated 20th April, and that, therefore, under no circumstances should I be justified in saying or doing anything which might be so construed without receiving fresh instructions from him. I am, however, of opinion that there will be ample time for me to receive such before Humaitá is captured, if he should think proper to send them.

Having, as you are aware, already obtained permission to accompany the Brazilian fleet, whenever it ascends the river after the capture of Humaitá, I trust I shall be able to

make such arrangements with the Brazilian naval Commander-in-chief in the event of a bombardment of Asuncion, as to give an opportunity to any British subjects who may be there of taking refuge on board this ship, if the Paraguayans will allow them to do so. Though I have hitherto considered it would be premature to enter on this subject.

As I believe such a contingency to be remote, and in the doubt I feel as to whether I have clearly apprehended your wishes, and also upon the point before referred to, I trust you will pardon my awaiting a further communication from yourself before taking any steps in so important and delicate a matter.

I request to be distinctly informed whether you wish me to ask the question referring to this ship as if asking a favour or simply for information, or whether you wish and authorize me to do so as a demand and as a matter of right, stating the views of Her Majesty's Government on the subject.

I am, of course, precluded from stating those views to the allied Commander-in-chief, except at your express request. I need scarcely say it would be impossible for me to urge them with force and freedom unless I were empowered to do so by my Commander-in-chief.

In the latter alternative, I beg you will furnish me with official documents to support the claim.

The result of my former official intercourse with the Marquis of Caxias has been such as to make me very desirous to be quite sure of what grounds I have to go upon, before again entering into direct and personal communication with him.

In the event of the aforesaid claim being allowed by the Commander-in-chief of the allies, I request you will be pleased to inform me what steps, if any, you wish to be taken with regard to the Paraguayan Government, so that I may be prepared to act, should an emergency arise, without further loss of time.

I trust you will believe that I am most anxious to carry out all four requisitions to the utmost of my power so soon as I am fully apprized of your wishes. I am confident you will not request me to do anything which can, in any way, conflict with the before-mentioned positive and reiterated orders of my Commander-in-chief.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. PERCY BUSHE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 38.

Mr. Gould to Lieutenant and Commander Bushe.

(Extract.) *Buenos Ayres, May* 24, 1868.

I REQUESTED you to ascertain, if possible, whether in the event of an attack on Asuncion, any objection would be made to the removal of the British subjects in that town, by Her Majesty's vessel under your command, before they were exposed to the dangers inevitably attending such an operation, in order that, in the event of the non-compliance of the Brazilian Commander-in-chief with so reasonable a request, I might have sufficient time afforded me to obviate, by friendly representations, the unpleasant consequences to which such a refusal would probably give rise, as well as to guard against the necessity of being compelled to have recourse to more energetic measures, which, however justifiable they might be in any sudden emergency, Her Majesty's Government is so anxious to avoid.

The requisite information might have, I conceived, been as easily obtained, as that referring to there being no objection to the vessel under your command accompanying the Brazilian squadron in the event of its advance beyond Humaitá.

In communicating to you the views of Her Majesty's Government respecting the rights of neutrals, I merely wished to place you, for your own guidance, in possession of information which might be of value to you in any unforseen emergency.

There can be no objection, so far as I can see, to your communicating with any Brazilian authorities to obtain, if necessary, their consent to the removal of British subjects from any place where they may be exposed to imminent danger.

No. 39.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(*Received July* 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May* 26, 1868.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th instant, relative to the proceedings of Lieutenant-Commander Bushe, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the copy of a subsequent despatch he has addressed, under flying seal, to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

I gather from it, with great satisfaction, that Lieutenant Bushe has, in accordance with my suggestions, ascertained from the Brazilian Naval Commander-in-chief that, in the event of any contemplated attack on Asuncion, an opportunity will be afforded to the British subjects who may be in that town, to take refuge on board Her Majesty's gun-boat, if present.

At the time I wrote to Lieutenant Bushe, I had already conferred on the subject with the Brazilian Special Envoy, who had readily given me most satisfactory assurances regarding the willingness of his Government to do everything in their power to ensure the safety of the British subjects in question; but as the final decision in such matters rests solely with the Marquis of Caxias, I had requested Lieutenant Bushe to endeavour to ascertain his Excellency's views.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure in No. 39.

Lieutenant and Commander Bushe to Rear-Admiral Ramsay.

Sir, *"Linnet," at Curupaiti, May* 23, 1862.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that yesterday the United States' war-steamer "Wasp" returned to this place from Corrientes. I have been informed by Lieutenant-Commander Kirkland, that he has recieved an answer to his letter to Mr. Washburn, who wrote from San Fernando, the head-quarters of the Paraguayan army, and who requested him, if possible, to ascend the river to Tacuara, a point below the Tibicuary, there to embark him and his family. President Lopez had promised to afford every facility for this, and had given him letters (which he had inclosed to Lieutenant Kirkland) addressed jointly to Colonels Alen and Martinez and Captain Cabral, in command at Humaitá, and to Colonel Caballero in command at Timbó, ordering them to let the "Wasp" pass; he also offered to provide a pilot to take her from Timbó to Tacuara. Lieutenant Kirkland has sent a copy of Mr. Washburn's letter to the Marquis of Caxias, with a letter from himself requesting to be allowed to pass through the Brazilian fleet, for the above purpose, and is now awaiting an answer.

I have been informed that, on the 20th, an officer in command of the advanced Paraguayan Cavalry picket, deserted to the Brazilian lines. and that he had stated that, nearly half the garrison were laid up from dysentery, that they were living on meat only, the maize in store having become rotten, that there were barely men enough to relieve the guards; and that the powder was running short, which was the reason they fired so seldom, he also said that an immediate assault would be certain to succeed.

Under these circumstances, I think it possible, and even probable, that in a few days an assault will be made.

I am informed by the Commander of the "Wasp" that an officer of that ship saw a bag of letters directed to the "Linnet" on board the steamer "Taraguy" at Corrientes on the 20th instant: if by mistake they have not been forwarded through Mr. Gould, as has hitherto been done, I fear that most probably they have gone back to Monte Video, and that it may be long before we receive them.

I have this afternoon called upon the Brazilian Admiral, Viscount of Inhauma. I asked him whether, after the capture of Humaitá, in the event of an attack upon Asuncion, an opportunity would be afforded to the British subjects supposed to be at that place, and many of whom were women and children, to take refuge on board this ship; and whether for this purpose we would be allowed a few hours to embark them, previous to a bombardment. I said that I asked this unofficially, and expressly abstained from then entering into any question as to any right we may have to do so. In reply, the Admiral said that he thought it very unlikely that any such attack would be made, but that in the event of one, he would give orders that notice should be given beforehand; and that

an opportunity should be afforded to any British subjects there of escaping the danger; that he would if necessary send a vessel to receive them on board and remove them to a place of safety, or to this ship if present; finally, he asked me to assure Mr. Gould that he would afford every protection in his power to the British subjects in Paraguay. I did not consider myself authorized to press the point as to our going ourselves to embark the British subjects; but while only asking it as a matter of humanity, I took care to do so without prejudice to any claim which may hereafter be made on this subject.

I trust my course in this matter will meet your approval.

This letter will leave Corrientes to-morrow morning, I am not certain whether it can save the mail steamer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. PERCY BUSHE.

No. 40.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May 26, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, at the request of his Excellency, Señor Elizalde, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I ventured to place in his hands under the form of a *note verbale* as a record of your Lordship's declaration in the House of Commons, with reference to the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the hostilities in the River Plate, an extract from the note addressed by your Lordship on the 25th of March last to the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires in England, which forms an inclosure in your Lordship's despatch of the 7th ultimo.

I, however, took the precaution of adding that the object of the communication, copy of which is herewith inclosed, was not in any way to imply that Her Majesty's Government were in the least desirous to press their good offices, but merely to acquaint the Argentine Government with their friendly sentiments towards it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Note Verbale.

Buenos Ayres, May 15, 1868.

WITH reference to the subject of the declaration made by Lord Stanley in the House of Commons relative to the hostilities in the River Plate, his Lordship states in a despatch of the 25th of March last, addressed to the Paraguayan Chargé d'Affaires in England, "I have now the honour to state to you that if both the contending parties should make an application with this object" (the termination of the war) "Her Majesty's Government would not be unwilling to employ their good offices, provided it should appear that the conditions on which either was prepared to make peace were reasonable and likely to be accepted by the other."

The preceding statement is not in any way meant to imply that Her Majesty's Government are in the least desirous of offering their good offices, but merely that hs Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs should be fully acquainted with the friendly sentiments of Her Majesty's Government towards the Argentine Government.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 41.

Mr. Gould to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 3.)

My Lord, *Buenos Ayres, May 28, 1868.*

I HAVE but little to add to the highly interesting information respecting the progress of the hostilities in Paraguay your Lordship will have found in Lieuenant Bushe's Reports to Rear-Admiral Ramsay, copies of which I had the honour of forwarding in my despatches of the 24th and 26th instant respectively.

It is now believed in official quarters that President Lopez's forces must be reduced to a total of 7,000 or 8,000 men; 1,000 to 1,500 of whom are hopelessly shut up in Humaitá.

The apprehensions caused by the unexpected appearance of a column of Paraguayan cavalry and infantry in the rear of the allied army have entirely ceased, since it is considered too weak to effect any serious diversion.

The permission granted by President Lopez for the passage of the United States' war-steamer "Wasp" to Tacuara, if acceded to by the allies, will necessitate the difficult operation of twice lowering the chain which bars the navigation of the river at Humaitá, and may possibly be caused by his wish to avail himself of the favourable opportunity thus offered to effect his escape on board the American vessel of war under the protection of Mr. Washburn, the United States' Representative in Paraguay.

Were the departure of Mr. Washburn and his family alone in question, it would apparently have been almost as easy for him to embark from the Chaco, opposite Humaitá, as from Tacuara, which is not many miles above the former place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. GOULD.

No. 42.

Mr. Mathew to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 3.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, June 8, 1868.*

NO further intelligence of importance has been received since I last had the honour of addressing your Lordship from the seat of war in Paraguay.

The operations of the allies have been limited to the occupation of various points in the Chaco, on the opposite side of the river to the fort of Humaitá, which was effected after a sharp opposition by the Paraguayans, who are stated, as usual, to have suffered severe loss.

The Report recently laid before the Chambers by the Minister for War gives the following as the expenditure of his Department during the last years of the war:—

	Milreis.	
For the fiscal year 1864–65	26,612,510	$911
,, ,, 1865–66	57,780,111	189
,, ,, 1866–67	58,182,389	963
,, ,, 1867–68	59,271,692	874
	201,846,703	937
Deduct ordinary expenses	45,860,840	030
	155,985,863	905
Cost of freedmen enlisted	2,508,690	171
Expenditure of War Department for four years	158,494,754	$076

The Minister states that the number of Brazilian troops sent to the war up to the 30th of April last was 66,706, and that the number of deaths arising from wounds and sickness, including those killed in battle, amounted to 8,175.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE BUCKLEY MATHEW.

No. 43.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1868.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of May, on the subject of the communication which you have made to Señor Elizalde with reference to the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the hostilities in the River Plate; and I have to state to you that I approve your proceedings as reported in that despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 44.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Gould.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 6, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th of May on the subject of the hostilities in the River Plate and the position of British subjects in Paraguay; and I have to acquaint you that your Report has been read by me with much interest.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 45.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Stuart

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, July* 7, 1868.

WITH regard to the war in Paraguay, Her Majesty's Government have at present no inducement to interfere, at least as far British interests generally are concerned; and there seems little likelihood that any tender of intervention on their part, with a view to the restoration of peace, would be sincerely accepted by both, even if it were by either, of the belligerents.

The more special interest which Her Majesty's Government have at the present moment in the contest, turns upon the impediments placed by President Lopez on the retirement of British subjects force Paraguay.

You will keep your attention constantly directed to this matter, and omit no opportunity for the employment of your good offices to effect their extrication from their embarrassing position, though of course you would not, without special instruction, apply to the British Admiral to effect that object by force.

No. 46.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received July 10.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July* 9, 1868.

I HAVE received and laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 6th instant, and its inclosures, from Mr. Gould, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, relative to the proceedings of Her Majesty's gun-boat "Linnet" in the Paraguay.

My Lords desire me to state, for the information of Lord Stanley, that it appears to them that Lieutenant Bushe, commanding the "Linnet," has acted with very proper caution, so as to avoid involving himself in difficulty with either of the belligerents in the Paraguay.

Lieutenant Bushe would no doubt take any requisite steps for the protection of British interests, at the proper time; and my Lords consider that there are not any grounds for complaint against that officer.

The inclosures to your letter are returned herewith.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY G. LENNOX.

RIVER PLATE.

No. 2. (1868.)

CORRESPONDENCE respecting Hostilities in the River Plate.

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament, February 1868.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 5½*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE

BRITISH AND SPANISH GOVERNMENTS

TO REFER THE

"MERMAID" CLAIM

TO A

MIXED COMMISSION.

Signed at Madrid, March 4, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

AGREEMENT between the British and Spanish Governments to refer the "Mermaid" Claim to a Mixed Commission.

Signed at Madrid, March 4, 1868.

THE Undersigned, Sir John Fiennes Crampton, Baronet, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Madrid; and Don Lorenzo Arrazola, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal and Distinguished Order of Charles III, Her Catholic Majesty's Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; being duly authorized on the part of their respective Governments, have agreed as follows:—

ARTICLE I.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty and the Government of Her Catholic Majesty agree to refer to the decision of a Mixed Commission the claim of Her Britannic Majesty's Government on behalf of the owners of the British schooner "Mermaid," of Dartmouth, for compensation for the loss of that vessel, alleged by the owners to have been sunk by a shot fired from the batteries of Ceuta on the 16th of October, 1864.

ARTICLE II.

The Commission shall be composed of four individuals; two to be named by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and two to be named by the Government of Her Catholic Majesty: the persons to be chosen to belong to the Diplomatic and Naval Services, as already agreed between the two Governments.

The Commissioners shall meet as early as may be practicable, either at Cadiz or at Ceuta, and before entering upon the execution of their duties shall make and subscribe a solemn declaration that they will carefully examine and impartially decide the question submitted to them; and such declaration shall be entered upon the record of their proceedings.

LOS Infrascritos, Sir John Fiennes Crampton, Baronet, Caballero Comendador de la Muy Honorable Orden del Baño, Enviado Estraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad Británica en la Corte de Madrid; y Don Lorenzo Arrazola, Caballero Gran Cruz de la Real y Distinguida Orden de Carlos III, Primer Secretario de Estado de Su Majestad Católica, habiendo sido autorizados en debida forma por sus Gobiernos respectivos, han convenido en lo siguiente:—

ARTICULO I.

El Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica y el Gobierno de Su Majestad Católica convienen en someter al juicio de una Comision Mixta la reclamacion del Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica en favor de los dueños de la goleta Inglesa "Mermaid," de Dartmouth, para obtener indemnizacion por la perdida de aquel buque, cuyos propietarios sostienen que fué echado á pique por un cañonazo disparado desde las baterias de Ceuta el dia 16 de Octubre de 1864.

ARTICULO II.

La Comision se compondrá de cuatro individuos, de los cuales dos serán nombrados por el Gobierno de Su Majestad Británica, y dos por el de Su Majestad Católica, debiendo recaer la eleccion en personas de la carrera diplomática y de la de la marina de guerra, segun lo anteriormente convenido entre ambos Gobiernos.

Tan pronto como sea posible los Comisionados se reunirán en Cádiz ó en Ceuta, y antes de dar principio á sus tareas harán y firmarán una solemne declaracion, comprometiendose á examinar detenidamente y á juzgar con imparcialidad la cuestion que á ellos se someta; dicha declaracion se inscribirá en las actas de sus deliberaciones.

At the first meeting of the Commissioners, and before they proceed to transact any other business, they shall name some fifth person to act, in case of necessity, as an Arbitrator or Umpire with regard to any point or points on which the Commissioners may differ in opinion.

If, however, the Commissioners should not be able to agree upon any such fifth person, the British and Spanish Commissioners shall each name a person; and in case the Commissioners should differ in opinion with regard to any point, it shall then be determined by lot which of the two persons so named shall be the Arbitrator or Umpire for the decision of that particular point; and so on with regard to any other point or points on which the Commissioners may differ in opinion.

The person so to be chosen shall make and subscribe a solemn declaration in a form similar to that made by the Commissioners, and it shall be entered on the record of the proceedings.

In the event of the death, resignation, absence, or incapacity of such Commissioners or Umpire, or of his or their omitting, declining, or ceasing to act, a new person or persons shall be appointed in the same manner as the person or persons originally appointed.

ARTICLE III.

The Commissioners shall then forthwith proceed to the investigation of the claim of the owners of the British schooner "Mermaid."

They shall be bound to receive and peruse all written documents or statements which may be presented to them by or on the part of the owners, or by or on behalf of the Spanish Government, and to receive and consider any evidence that may be tendered to them in support of or against the claim, and also to hear, if required, one person as Counsel or Agent on either side.

If they should fail to agree either as to the validity of the claim, or as to the amount of compensation to be awarded, they shall call to their assistance the Arbitrator or Umpire; and such Arbitrator or Umpire, after having examined the evidence adduced for or against the claim, and having heard, if required, one person on each side as aforesaid, and consulted with the Commissioners, shall decide thereupon finally and without appeal.

En la primera sesion de los Comisionados, y antes de emprender otro trabajo, nombrarán una quinta persona para llenar, en caso necesario, el puesto de tercero en discordia, con respecto á cualquier punto ó puntos acerca de los cuales los Comisionados pudieran tener diversidad de opinion.

Pero si los Comisionados no pudieran ponerse de acuerdo sobre la designacion de esta quinta persona, los Comisionados Ingleses y Españoles designarán una persona por cada parte, y en caso de que los comisionados difieran respecto de cualquier punto, entonces se echarán suertes para saber cual de aquellas dos personas ya designadas hará de árbitro para decidir sobre el punto contestado; observandose el mismo procedimiento cada vez que se suscite una divergencia de opinion entre los Comisionados.

La persona así designada hará y firmará una solemne declaracion semejante en la forma á la estendida por los Comisionados, y dicha declaracion se inscribirá en las actas de las deliberaciones.

En el caso de muerte, dimision, ausencia, ó incapacidad de dichos Comisionados ó tercero en discordia, ó si sucediera que el ó ellos omitiesen, rehusaren, ó cesasen de ejercer sus cargos, se nombrará una nueva persona ó personas del mismo modo que se verificó el nombramiento del individuo ó individuos eligidos desde un principio.

ARTICULO III.

Los Comisionados procederán en seguida al exámen y averiguacion de la reclamacion de los dueños de la goleta Inglesa "Mermaid."

Tendrán obligacion de recibir y leer todo documento ó declaracion por escrito que les fuere presentado por los dueños de dicho buque ó de parte de los mismos, así como por el Gobierno Español ó de su parte; y de recibir y tomar en consideracion todo testimonio que se les pueda presentar en apoyo de la reclamacion ó en contra de la misma.

Deberán tambien oir, si preciso fuera, á una persona que actue como abogado ó agente de cada una de las dos partes.

En caso que no les fuere posible ponerse de acuerdo acerca de la validez de la reclamacion ó de la cantidad que haya de señalarse como indemnizacion, llamarán al tercero en discordia para que les asista; y dicho tercero en discordia, despues de haber examinado cuanto se haya expuesto en favor ó en contra de la reclamacion, y despues de haber oido, si necesario fuera, á un individuo por cada parte de la manera antes mencionada, y consultado á los Comisionados, decidirá sobre ello definitivamente y sin que haya lugar á apelacion.

The decision of the Commissioners, or of the Arbitrator or Umpire, shall be given in writing, and shall be signed by him or them respectively.

The two Governments solemnly and sincerely engage to consider the decision of the Commissioners conjointly, or of the Arbitrator or Umpire, as the case may be, as final and conclusive on the question referred, and to give full effect thereto without objection or delay.

The decision shall, if possible, be given within three months from the first meeting of the Commissioners.

La decision de los Comisionados ó del tercero en discordia se pondrá por escrito, y será firmada por este ó por aquellos respectivamente.

Los dos Gobiernos convienen de una manera solemne y sincera en considerar la decision de los Comisionados en conjunto, ó, en su caso, del tercero en discordia, como ejecutoria y definitiva con respecto á la cuestion referida, y darán á dicha decision cumplido efecto sin oposicion ni dilaciones.

La decision deberá recaer, si fuere posible, dentro del término de tres meses á contar desde la primera sesion de los Comisionados.

ARTICLE IV.

Should the decision be favourable to the claimants, and should it be necessary to pay any sum of money, such sum shall be made good by the Spanish Government within the term of ninety days, reckoned from the date of the decision.

ARTICULO IV.

Si la decision fuese favorable á los reclamantes, y hubiese lugar al abono de alguna suma de dinero, séra esta satisfechá por el Gobierno Español en el término de noventa dias contados desde la fecha de la decision.

ARTICLE V.

The Commissioners and the Arbitrator or Umpire shall keep an accurate record of their proceedings, with the date thereof, and shall appoint and employ a Clerk to assist them in the transaction of their business.

Any salary or gratuity paid to the Commissioners shall be defrayed by their respective Governments. Any salary or gratuity paid to the Arbitrator or Umpire, and to the Clerk, and any contingent expenses, shall be defrayed in moieties by the respective Governments.

ARTICULO V.

Los Comisionados y el tercero en discordia estenderán actas fieles de sus deliberaciones, con la fecha de las mismas, y nombrarán y tendrán un empleado para ayudarlos en el despacho de sus asuntos.

El sueldo ó gratificacion que puedan percibir los Comisionados será satisfecho por sus Gobiernos respectivos. Cada Gobierno pagará la mitad del sueldo ó gratificacion que puedan percibir el tercero en discordia y el referido empleado, como tambien la mitad de los gastos eventuales.

In witness whereof the respective parties have signed the present agreement, and affixed their seals thereto.

Done in duplicate in Madrid, the fourth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

JOHN F. CRAMPTON. (L.S.)
LORENZO ARRAZOLA. (L.S.)

En fé de lo cual las partes respectivas han firmado este Convenio, y lo han sellado con sus sellos.

Fecho en Madrid, por duplicado, el dia cuatro de Marzo, de mil ochocientos sesenta y ocho.

JOHN F. CRAMPTON.
LORENZO ARRAZOLA.

AGREEMENT between the British and Spanish Governments to refer the "Mermaid" Claim to a Mixed Commission.

Signed at Madrid, March 4, 1868.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

[*Price* 1*d.*]

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

"TORNADO." No. 1 (1868).

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

SEIZURE OF THE "TORNADO,"

OFF

MADEIRA,

BY THE

SPANISH FRIGATE "GERONA."

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament, June 27, 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1868.

LONDON:
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Correspondence respecting the Seizure of the "Tornado," off Madeira, by the Spanish Frigate "Gerona."

No. 1.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received July 7.)

(Extract.) *San Ildefonso, July* 3, 1867.

I HAVE to report that but little, if any, change in the position of the "Tornado" question has occurred since the date of the last despatches which I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship on the subject.

By these your Lordship will have been apprized of the sentence of the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine, by which it "inhibits" itself as incompetent to take legal cognizance of the affair, and revokes one of the principal acts of the Prize Court at Cadiz,—a decision which, in the opinion of the claimant's counsel, has the legal effect of rendering null and void all the proceedings of that Court, including the two sentences provisionally pronounced by it.

No objection having been taken to this sentence of the Supreme Tribunal of War and Marine within the legal delay, it became executory, and the case, with all the documents thereunto relating, was accordingly handed over to the Minister of Marine, to be dealt with by the Government, as to them should seem fit.

The whole case was then referred by that Minister to the Council of State, not, properly speaking, for its decision, but in order to obtain its opinion as a consultative body respecting the manner in which it is proper and expedient for the Government now to deal with the question.

Such is, consequently, the present position of the affair. I am informed that the question has been placed in the hands of one of the "Sections" or Committees of the Council of State, whose duty it will be to report upon it to the Council *in pleno*, that is, in a session of the whole body, who will then pronounce their opinion.

I hope it is unnecessary that I should assure your Lordship that I have omitted no opportunity of impressing upon the different members of successive Spanish Administrations the expediency of bringing this complicated and disagreeable matter to a conclusion in the interest of the good understanding which it is desirable to maintain between the two nations, as well as between their respective Governments.

The case of the "Tornado" is one which is liable to, and has been made the subject of, exaggerated statements and irritating comments on both sides of the question. These have not failed to produce a state of feeling adverse to an amicable adjustment of the affair; and I have consequently endeavoured to bring to bear upon it any personal influence which I may have obtained with the members of different Spanish Cabinets from having, according to their own repeated acknowledgment, constantly treated this matter with moderation and propriety and in a spirit of conciliation, while supporting the well-founded requirements of Her Majesty's Government in regard to it.

No. 2.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 10, 1867.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd instant, reporting the course which you have adopted in the case of the "Tornado," and I have to inform you, in reply, that I approve the language which you have held as reported in your despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 3.

Captain Mc Killop to Mr. Hammond.—(Received August 3.)

Sir, *Parker's House, Boston, Maine, July,* 23, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of June, forwarded to me here from Washington, and the copy of a letter from Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co., of the 12th of June. I am prepared to substantiate every word I stated in my letter of the 23rd of May last, in answer to certain inquiries which I was called upon to answer. I shall make no comment on Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co.'s letter further than to say that it is quite in keeping with the usual treatment received by myself and others since my unfortunate acquaintance with that eminent firm.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. F. Mc KILLOP.

No. 4.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 28.)

My Lord, *San Ildefonso, August* 24, 1867.

I HAVE now the honour to inclose an extract from the "Madrid Gazette," containing a judicial notice or citation ("providencia") by the Prize Court at Cadiz ("Junta Economica del Departamento"), calling upon Mr. Saul Isaac, Captain Edward Collier, and others interested in the vessel, to enter upon their defence in the trial of this vessel within the period of thirty days, and placing at their disposal, or that of their attorneys, all the documents relating to the cause.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Extract from the "Madrid Gazette" of August 23, 1867.

(Translation.)

IN virtue of that which was ordered by Decree of 6th instant by the Prize Court of this Department, Mr. Saul Isaac, calling himself the owner of the steamer "Tornado," her Captain, Mr. Edward M. Collier, and the other persons who may consider that they have rights in that vessel, which came from the ports of Leith (Scotland) and Funchal (Island of Madeira), sailed under the English flag and was captured by the Spanish frigate "Gerona" on the night of August 22, 1866, when at a distance of more than four miles from Cape Tristao, as suspected of contraband of war, if not an enemy, are cited and summoned, and a term of thirty days is allowed them, reckoned from the date of the insertion of this announcement in the "Madrid Gazette," in order that either in person or by means of properly authorized representatives they may appear before this Tribunal for the purpose of presenting their defence of themselves, of the captured ship, of the crew, and of the interests represented; to which end, and as soon as they shall appear, they shall be shown all the documents relating to the case at the Clerk's Office, so that, either in person or by their representatives, they may collect such information as may be necessary. And let them take notice, that if they allow the said term of thirty

days to expire without appearing before this Court, or presenting their defence, the case will be proceeded with in their absence, until the definitive decision thereof.

San Fernando, August 9, 1867.

The Chief Clerk of the Department,

(Signed) The Licentiate JOSE GONZALEZ TELLEZ WARLETA.

No. 5.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received August 30.)

My Lord, *San Ildefonso, August* 25, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, transmitting to me a communication ("providencia") addressed to him by the Minister of Marine on the 16th instant, being a notice to those interested in the "Tornado" to appear before the Prize Court at Cadiz, within thirty days after the announcement to that effect contained in the "Madrid Gazette," which I had the honour to transmit to your Lordship with my despatch of yesterday's date.

I have sent this notice to Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, instructing him to place it in the hands of whoever represents there the interests of the owners of the "Tornado."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Señor Arrazola to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir, *San Ildefonso, August* 22, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Excellency the inclosed document, which the Minister of Marine has forwarded to me under date of the 16th instant, in order that the owners of the steamer "Tornado" may be cited, and I request your Excellency to be so good as to inform the persons interested in the said steamer "Tornado" of its contents, in order that they may appear, in person or by representatives, before the Prize Court of Cadiz within the space of thirty days, reckoned from the insertion of the notice in the "Madrid Gazette."

I avail, &c.

(Signed) L. ARRAZOLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Decree of Economic Junta.

(Translation.)

I, THE Licentiate Don Jozé Gonzalez Tellez Warleta, Chief Clerk of Marine of this Department and of this Prize Court, certify:—

That the Most Excellent Economic Junta of this Department having been informed of the resolution of Her Majesty, on the advice of the Council of State, contained in the Superior Order which accompanies the records of the proceedings instituted on account of the capture of the steamer "Tornado," and which have been returned to this Court, it was decided that a Decree in the following words should be issued:—

"*San Fernando, August* 6, 1867.

"We respect and obey the Royal Order of 27th July last, notice of the reception of which shall be added to the records of the previous proceedings of this Court, and the receipt of which shall be acknowledged to his Excellency the Captain-General of this Department, as well as the receipt of the documents relating to the proceedings, evidence, attestation, steps taken, reports, copies of documents, communications, and minutes of Royal Orders, which accompany the aforesaid Royal Order. Let a separate collection be made of the reports, copies of statements, communications, and minutes of Royal Orders which form the records of the proceedings of the Ministry of Marine, and which have been received with the other documents relating to the case; and, in fulfilment of the resolution of Her Majesty on the advice of the Council of State, let Mr. Saul Isaac,

who calls himself the owner of the steam-ship 'Tornado,' Captain Edward M. Collier, and all other persons who consider they have rights in the said ship, which, while coming from the ports of Leith (Scotland) and Funchal (Island of Madeira), and sailing under the English flag, was captured by the Spanish frigate 'Gerona,' on the night of the 22nd of August, 1866, when at a distance of more than four miles from Cape Tristao, as being suspected of contraband of war, if not an enemy,—be cited to appear in person, if they can be found, by means of edicts which shall be inserted in the official Bulletin of this province and in the 'Madrid Gazette,' in order that either in person or by means of properly authorized representatives, they may appear before this Court within a given term of thirty days, reckoned from the insertion of the announcement in the 'Madrid Gazette,' and may present their defence of themselves, of the captured ship, of the crew, and of the interests represented, to which end, and as soon as they may present themselves, all the documents relating to the case shall be shown to them at the Clerk's Office, in order that they may get the necessary information either in person or by means of their representatives; and let them take notice that if they allow the said term of thirty days to expire without appearing before this Court or presenting their defence, the case will go on, in their absence, until the definitive decision of the same. And in order that, if possible, personal attestation may take place, let an order, inclosing this Decree, be sent to the Commandant of the District of Cadiz, which was the last known residence in Spain of Captain E. M. Collier and Mr. Daniel McPherson, who, although in an irregular manner, obtained a power to represent Mr. Saul Isaac, in order that the said Commandant may order an inquiry to be set on foot by the Clerk of Marine. Let a certified copy of this Decree be sent in an official communication to his Excellency the Minister of Marine, begging him to hand it over to the Minister of State, in order that the latter may transmit it to Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary in Madrid, so that he may be able to give information of the contents of the same to the persons interested in the steam-ship 'Tornado.'"

(Here follow the signatures of the members of the Court.)

(Here follows the attestation of this document.)

No. 6.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(*Received September* 3.)

7, East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,
September 2, 1867.

My Lord,

WE have the honour to request the favour of an appointment convenient to your Lordship, for an interview with our Mr. Saul Isaac on the subject of the "Tornado."

We have, &c.

(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 7.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 6, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant asking for an interview, and I have to state to you in reply that his Lordship would prefer that any communication from your firm respecting the case of the "Tornado" should be addressed to him in writing, and he regrets, therefore, that he cannot receive Mr. Saul Isaac as you propose.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 8.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, September 9, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you herewith a translation of a document* citing the owner of the "Tornado" to appear, in person or by representatives

* Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

before the Prize Court of Cadiz within the space of thirty days reckoned from the insertion of the notice in the "Madrid Gazette," which is stated to have taken place on the 23rd of August.

Sir J. Crampton reports that he has sent this notice to Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz with instructions to place it in the hands of whoever at that place represents the interests of the "Tornado."

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 9.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 14.)

7, *East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,*
My Lord, *September* 13, 1867.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 9th instant, inclosing copy of citation to the owners of the "Tornado" to appear before the Prize Court at Cadiz within thirty days from the 23rd ultimo.

We beg to state that we have, without hesitation, accepted this citation, and have directed our Counsel, Señor Retortillo, to appear on our behalf, and to enter our protest against the reception, as against our ship, of any portion of the so-called evidence set out in the "Sumario." In taking this course we venture to reckon upon the support of Her Majesty's Government. The proceedings of the former Prize Court having been quashed as irregular and illegal, it is impossible that the evidence taken before that tribunal, taken moreover by subornation and behind the back of the claimants, can legally be reproduced in any shape or form; and we need not remind your Lordship that the inadmissibility of this evidence has already been insisted upon by your Lordship in imperative terms.

We have no objection to submit our property to the adjudication of a Prize Court, and, provided we are fairly heard upon evidence fairly adduced, we are quite willing to take the consequences; but our conviction being that it is the determination of the Spanish authorities to condemn our ship *per fas aut per nefas*, and to employ any and every means to that end, we call upon Her Majesty's Government on the threshold of this inquiry to protect us against the gross injustice which we feel and know to be meditated.

We seek for no intercession; we are content to stand or fall by our case: but we demand respectfully, but firmly, that the principles of natural justice—those principles which all civilized nations are bound to respect and insist upon—shall be respected in the proceedings about to be instituted at Cadiz.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 10.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received September* 26.)

1, *Hurdwicke Place, Hampstead Road,*
My Lord, *September* 26, 1867.

AS I happen to have heard that a new trial is about to take place in Spain on the "Tornado" case, of which ship I was the Commander, I would be thankful by your Lordship's permitting me to have an interview with you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 11.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(Received September 28.)

7, *East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,*
My Lord, *September* 27, 1867.

SINCE we had last the honour of addressing your Lordship, stating that we had accepted the citation of the Spanish authorities to submit our ship to the adjudication

* Captain Collier was requested to state in writing what he had to say.

of a Prize Court at Cadiz to be opened on the 23rd instant, we have had a lengthened consultation with our Spanish Counsel whom we have instructed to appear for us.

The opinion of this gentleman is that the design of the Spanish authorities is to avail themselves of the greater part of the so-called evidence set forth in the "Sumario;" but that whether this be so or not, it is the fixed intention to condemn our ship after a show of proceedure which it is hoped in Spain may satisfy the requirements of Her Majesty's Government for a new trial. Our Counsel will nevertheless appear for us and will watch the case, and act to the best of his judgment. But we venture once more to impress upon your Lordship our conviction that it is not the meting out of justice, but the appropriation of our property, which is the determination of the Spanish Government in this case.

We have complied with your Lordship's suggestions to go to trial a second time. We have a case, both as regards the law and the merits of which we should have no misgivings in any Court where the principles of international equity are understood and applied; and as subjects of the Crown, entitled to its protection, we call upon Her Majesty's Government to see that those principles are not disregarded in our case, and that we are not made the victims of injustice and oppression under the guise and semblance of legal procedure.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 12.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, September* 30, 1867.

I HAVE laid before Lord Stanley your letters of the 13th and 27th instant, and I am directed by his Lordship, after communicating with the Law Officers of the Crown, to acquaint you in reply that Her Majesty's Government cannot properly interfere in the present state of the proceedings in the case of the "Tornado," nor express any opinion as to the admissibility of any particular evidence, nor assume nor act upon the assumption that gross injustice is meditated by the Spanish authorities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 13.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord, 1, *Hurdwicke Place, Hampstead Road, October* 15, 1867.

IN reply to your Lordship's letter of the 30th September, requesting me to put into writing any communication I might have to make with regard to the "Tornado" case, I beg most respectfully to acquaint you that my reason for requesting an interview with your Lordship was to ask what steps your Lordship would advise me to take on behalf of myself and crew, if Messrs. Isaac, Campbell, and Co., the owners of the "Tornado," did not put in an appearance at the new trial which was to have taken place at Cadiz, and what effect such non-appearance would have upon the case of the crew.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 14.

Mr. Egerton to Captain Collier.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 22, 1867.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th instant, I am directed by Lord Stanley to inform you that his Lordship having been in communication with the proper Law Advisers of the Crown, is of opinion that you would do well to take the advice of a Spanish lawyer as to your right to appear in the event of Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. declining to enter an appearance at the trial of the "Tornado."

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. C. EGERTON.

No. 15.

Consul Dunlop to Lord Stanley.—(*Received October* 29.)

My Lord, *Cadiz, October* 24, 1867.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a letter which reached me this morning from Mr. William McPherson, merchant here, who acts as representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, owner of the "Tornado," which incloses the translation of a paper sent in by him last week to the Board or Commission lately sitting at San Fernando (near Cadiz arsenal), charged with the renewed proceedings in the case.

Referring your Lordship to these documents, it may be briefly stated that they enter fully into consideration of the recent acts of the said Board, as viewed by the Spanish Law Advisers of Mr. Isaac at Madrid, and that objection is taken to the following alleged facts:—

1. That, whether intentionally or otherwise, the San Fernando Board, who were commissioned last month from Madrid to resume certain proceedings against the "Tornado," have not complied either with the letter or the spirit of their instructions, but have contravened them, and have thus again placed themselves in the wrong by not conforming to the law, nor to the orders given to them.

2. That in consequence of this, no legal trial of the "Tornado" case has yet taken place; and that the erroneous persistence of the said Board in usurping full judicial functions is also a repetition of former acknowledged illegalities.

3. That this, and the continued delay, is now without doubt (so the lawyers assert) a "denial of justice," according to the spirit of the laws of all nations.

4. That the former "sentence" was in its entirety annulled, by which decision John McPherson was ordered to be detained, and was detained, and incarcerated as a Chilean prisoner. His continued detention is illegal, and has been so since the time that the "sentence" was pronounced void by the Supreme Court of War and Marine.

The advisers of Mr. Isaac, therefore, protest in the inclosed paper against the acts of the Board of San Fernando, and also against the recognition of the validity of the "Sumario," the whole proceedings of the original Court having been formally annulled by the Tribunal of War and Marine.

Mr. Isaac's agent earnestly requests me to lose no time in placing these documents before your Lordship; they are therefore sent direct.

Respecting John McPherson I beg leave merely to add that he is still prisoner on parole at Puerto Real, near this; and that I continue, in conformity with your Lordship's orders, to support him as a "distressed British seaman," as reported in my last despatches regarding him. He has frequently applied of late at this Consulate to know if any intelligence is expected of his being liberated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Mr. W. Mc Pherson to Consul Dunlop.

Sir, *Cadiz, October* 24, 1867.

AS representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, of London, owner of the English steam-ship "Tornado," I consider it my duty to inclose herewith a translation of my answer to the summons of the Board of the Department of San Fernando, acting now as a Royal Commission; and I would request you would kindly forward this document to Lord Stanley, as it is of great importance his Lordship should at once be acquainted with the real state of the case, which is at present simply this:—

The Supreme Court of War and Marine through their sentence of 23rd of May ultimo, have annulled the proceedings of the Court of San Fernando.

The Minister of Marine, in conformity with the advice of the Council of State, ordained on 27th of July ultimo that only a portion of their proceedings were to be annulled, and that the "Sumario" was to be maintained as valid, most violently interpreting that sentence, which no one has a right to interpret, which most clearly and conclusively annuls the proceedings of the Court of San Fernando without any limitation whatever, and which cannot be revoked.

The Board of San Fernando, acting now as a Royal Commission, goes a step further. It is natural, perhaps, that they should not obey the sentence of the Supreme Court of

War and Marine after the decision of the Minister; but instead of retaining only the "Sumario" in the voluminous papers they present, every act of theirs is included—from the commencement of the case to their definitive condemnation of the vessel.

It is quite clear why the Spanish Government first, and the Board of the Department afterwards, wish to maintain the legality of what has been most formally declared null by the Supreme Court, though acting thus they must close their eyes to all reason, and trust that their acts will not be very severely scrutinized; they think it tedious, difficult, or, perhaps, impossible to establish a case against the "Tornado," and of course wish to avail themselves of their former illegal work arranged as they thought proper. The owners of the vessel, however, will only answer charges legally brought forward, and it is no fault of theirs if the captors are not in a position to maintain their accusation.

I sincerely trust that the document I forward you will prove that a "denial of justice" is most clearly established, and that it is high time Her Britannic Majesty's Government should demand the return of this illegally detained property, together with due compensation for every unwarrantable act committed since the time of her capture.

I remain, &c.

(Signed) WM. Mc PHERSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Answer of Mr. W. Mc Pherson to the Summons of the Board of the Department of San Fernando.

(Translation.)

May it please your Excellency,

MR. WILLIAM McPHERSON, British subject, residing in this place, as representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, lawful owner of the steamer "Tornado," which (sailing under English flag) was taken on the 22nd of August, 1866, by the frigate "Gerona," belonging to the Royal Navy of Spain, to your Excellency respectfully showeth—

That for an unprorogable or strictly limited period of ten days, access has been given him to the documents and proceedings which constitute the "expediente" of the capture of the "Tornado," in order that he may draw up the defence against charges or accusations made against the ship.

From the moment that Mr. Saul Isaac, whom I represent, became aware, through the medium of his Government, that the Fiscal Board of this Department constituted a Prize Court, summoned him by edict published in the official Gazette of the 23rd day of August of the present year, along with the captain of the "Tornado," and all others who might believe they had interests vested in the said ship, to appear within the term of thirty days, he formed a decided resolution to be legally represented before the tribunal which summoned him, and although he did not know officially if Her Catholic Majesty's Government had given decision respecting the exceptions previously taken by Captain Edward M. Collier to the proceedings of the Prize Court, so ardent was his desire to defend himself, and so profound his conviction of his innocence, that he did not hesitate an instant in dispensing with the official notice which the Spanish Government should have given him, and were bound to give him, of its decisions.

It was certainly an irregularity in administrative order that the opinions taken by the Spanish Ministry of Marine, in consequence of the complaints and appeals brought forward by the then representative of the total and general rights of the "Tornado," should not have been officially communicated to her legitimate owner and proprietor, whose residence in London was known, and who had, moreover, a legal representative in Cadiz to whom previously notice had been given of all the acts emanating from the Fiscal Board of the Department. And this was certainly more extraordinary, bearing in mind that the edict of citation and summons which the official Gazette of Madrid published on the 23rd of August was communicated to him through the medium of the British Government, according to diplomatic usages and procedure.

Mr. Saul Isaac, however, ignored this evident administrative irregularity, and resigned himself to being ignorant of the nature of the decision adopted by his Excellency the Spanish Minister of Marine, after consulting the State Council, even causing himself to be represented in the Prize Court at San Fernando, which had cited and summoned him. He believed, on good grouuds, that in the "expediente" commenced before the Fiscal Board of the Department, he should find the Royal Order which decided and brought to a conclusion the exceptions previously taken, and without wishing to give a pretext for doubting his good intentions, by taking further exception to the absence of personal notice, which is,

nevertheless, an essential part of every proceeding, he hastened to name a representative who in his name should respond to the call of the Board.

The Undersigned obeyed the instructions of his principal, appeared before the Prize Court, and begged a delay to draw up a defence, after examining the "expediente." Your Excellency was pleased to concede an unprorogable delay of ten days in virtue of the Decree of the 5th instant.

Although the delay was, moreover, embarrassing, and although the delays conceded in governmental "expedientes" are not usually of inexorable character, as in the present instance, the deponent agreed to it without vacillation, always anxious not to appear even without reason to be the cause of fresh postponements.

He applied himself, therefore, to the examination of the "expediente," and his first care was to seek for the Royal Order, which, deciding the exceptions previously taken, should serve as the legal basis of the "expediente" now to be commenced. He found it dictated on the 27th of July entirely in accordance with the opinion of the State Council, and without attaching great importance to the omitted notification, supposed it as having been given, and afforded in this manner one more proof of his earnest desire not to raise obstacles, and to avoid conflicts.

It is unnecessary to say that the deponent examined carefully and attentively the Royal Order of the 27th July, for in that Ministerial disposition he was to discover the solution of the most important points of law raised by Captain Collier in his various petitions to the Marine Minister.

From the examination of this Royal Order the deponent was enabled to deduce the evident consequence that, at last, after the great anxiety and trouble experienced by the captured during the many months transpired since the capture, good legal principles had triumphed, and that it had been decided by the highest bodies of the Spanish nation that prize trials are matters of purely governmental character—a principle denied with tenacity by the Board of the Department, which, as a Prize Court, has never been willing to abandon the judicial character which from the beginning it has usurped.

In addition to this important legal triumph, attained by the captured by dint of great sacrifices, the Royal Order of the 27th of July contains other dispositions favourable to the legal bases brought forward by Captain Collier in his various documents, and amongst others is the declaration of the nullity of the whole proceeding before the Board with judicial character. This declaration is certainly not new; nor had the captured, to know it, any necessity to wait until it should be published in the said Royal Order; because since the 23rd of May of the present year, this point has been placed for them beyond question, by the executory sentence of the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal declaring the nullity of the proceeding before the Fiscal Board of the Department, constituted a Prize Court to take cognizance of the capture of the "Tornado."

There are, consequently, two legal bases which the proprietor of the "Tornado" may now establish: one to insist upon the nullity of the proceedings hitherto; the other, to obtain the recognition of the governmental nature of the "expediente." The first basis is contained in the executory sentence dictated on the 23rd of May by the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal, against which no one has appealed in proper time, of which no one has requested amplification at the opportune moment. The second basis is to be found in the Royal Order of the 27th of July, emanating from the Marine Ministry, in entire accordance with the opinion of the State Council. Two of the highest, most important, and most respectable bodies in Spain, one being of judicial, and the other of administrative order, have therefore declared that the exceptions taken by Captain Collier to the validity of the proceedings of the Prize Court, and to the judicial character which it gave to them, were well founded, were just, were supported by the Spanish laws, which had not been observed with exactitude nor accurately interpreted.

These two bases, produced by bodies so distinct from each other both in nature and essence as are the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal and the State Council, cannot be set aside. The sentence of the first comprehended the nullity of the proceedings, because that was the legal point which a Tribunal of Justice could decide upon. On this account the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal limited itself to abrogating and annulling the whole of the proceedings of a Fiscal Board which should not have taken upon itself judicial attributes; inhibited itself from taking cognizance of a matter which, having no judicial aspect or existence, did not concern it, and, without doing anything else, forwarded the "expediente" to Her Catholic Majesty's Government, in order that the latter might decide respecting the remaining questions. The Government consulted the State Council, and as the competency of this Body and of the Government is purely administrative, they resolved with mutual agreement that the "expediente" of the "Tornado" ought to be governmental, and that those who had given it a judicial character had

committed an evident legal error. Here the initiative of the Government should have terminated, because for the rest its duty was to comply with, and cause to be complied with, the sentence of the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal respecting the nullity of the proceedings. Unfortunately it has not limited itself to the purely governmental circle of its exclusive competency, and has endeavoured to explain and to make comments upon the sentence of the Supreme Tribunal, without bearing in mind that the term during which its abrogation or amplification might have been petitioned for having elapsed, it is an executory sentence which is equally binding upon all.

The interpretation of the executory sentences given by the Tribunals of Justice does not belong to the State Council nor to Her Majesty's Government; and to suppose the contrary would be to be ignorant of the law, and to destroy the sacred principle of the inviolability of the verdict given. No one will tell us that we are asserting a legal absurdity if we sustain that the sentence dictated on the 23rd of May by the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal cannot be invalidated, modified, or amplified, not even by the same Tribunal which pronounced it, because the delay which the law concedes for such a purpose has passed.

It is therefore logical and forcible deduction that the Royal Order of the 27th of July, inasmuch as it refers to the concrete question decided by the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal in its sentence of the 23rd of May; that is to say, to the nullity of the proceedings before the Fiscal Board of the Department as Prize Court, is valid as far as it be in conformity with that sentence, and inefficacious inasmuch as it be in opposition to that sentence.

Therefore the deponent, as far as the nullity of the proceedings adopted in the "expediente" is concerned, has a solid, clear, and decisive basis, which he can always invoke in his favour, viz., the sentence of the 23rd of May, he cannot accept that, decided by the Government, save the part which refers to the governmental nature of the "expediente," and the manner in which it orders that the Board of the Department shall take cognizance of the "expediente;" reserving to himself the recourse conceded him by the laws, of appealing in due time against the contents of the Royal Order of the 27th of July, inasmuch as he may judge it to be contradictory to the sentence which has become executory, or in any other manner prejudicial to his interests or in disregard of his rights.

The question fairly placed upon this ground, the Undersigned will now consider th Royal Order of the 27th of July, as the source of the new "expediente" which should be commenced, and will examine whether the Board of the Department has obeyed each and all of the orders it contains.

And on reaching this point the deponent cannot do less than express his profound astonishment on simply inspecting the "expediente." He could not help observing immediately the exaggerated bulk of an "expediente" which is now beginning, for the Royal Order of the 27th of July expressly declares that only that portion of the proceedings of the Board which are of administrative character retain their efficacy. This declaration carries with it the rejection of the whole of the "expediente," because the Board of the Department never proceeded with administrative character—rather the contrary was the case. From the first session which it held on the 3rd of September, 1866, to delegate its faculties to the Commander of the Naval Detachment at Cadiz, in order that he might proceed to form a summary, it declared with all clearness and precision that it made use of its judicial attributes, consequently that which the Board then delegated were its judicial faculties; and it is therefore clear that the Commander of the Naval Detachment of Cadiz could not exercise administrative attributes, he being judicial delegate. Let the act on the first folio of the roll, drawn up by the Board, be read, and no one can fail to be profoundly convinced that the Board never intended, either itself or by delegation of the Commander of the Detachment, to draw up an administrative "expediente," but a judicial summary. There is nothing in the proceedings from that date, the 3rd of September, 1866, which does not breathe and have the judicial character. The Board considered itself a Court of Justice; the Commander of the Naval Detachment was the delegate of that Court; and even the least provisional decrees, which are called "autos," and even the most trifling steps, carry with them the judicial seal which the Board attached thereto, believing in good faith that its authority was judicial and that it exercised its jurisdiction judicially.

On this account, if the Royal Order had been in keeping with the principle it proclaimed, the preservation of the efficacy of the administrative proceedings, it should commence by acknowledging the nullity of the proceedings from the said date of the 3rd of September, 1866, when the first session of the Departmental Board was held, and then the Royal Order would be in agreement with the sentence of the Supreme War and

Marine Tribunal, and the deponent could not do less than respect and accept it in all its parts. But to recognize first that value should be attached only to the administrative proceedings, and afterwards declare to be valid the proceedings of the Board, so far as folio 25 of the roll, that is to say, all the steps taken from the time that the Board met on the 3rd of September, 1866, and using its judicial attributes, for thus it expressly says, commissioned the Commander of the Naval Detachment to draw up the summary, is such an evident contradiction that it is impossible to explain how Her Majesty's Government has fallen into it, and which in any case will not prevail when we bring forward the legal appeal.

But passing at present over this point, which we will make more clear when the occasion for so doing presents itself, it is indubitable that the Royal Order of the 27th of July did not preserve of the old "expediente" more than the proceedings as far as folio 25 of the roll, under the erroneous impression that those proceedings were of administrative character. Well, then, our astonishment may be easily understood when on running through the "expediente" we find therein united in friendly companionship, without warning of any kind, without any separation, without any one having taken the trouble to explain the reason, not only the proceedings as far as folio 25 of the roll (which is what the Royal Order commands to be preserved), but all that which from that folio forward was done by the Board up to the time that the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal annulled the proceedings, and even more, all that has been done or caused to be done by the Board until the publication of the Royal Order of the 27th of July.

As far as the Departmental Board is concerned, nothing has been altered in this respect. The sentence of the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal, which annulled the whole proceeding, is doubtless a sentence which does not refer to the "expediente" of the "Tornado." The Royal Order which commanded that only the proceedings as far as folio 25 of the roll should be retained, is only a curious document which has united the acts ("autos," as it still calls them); it matters nothing—signifies nothing; there is no variation to be made in the voluminous proceedings taken; there is the "expediente," and every one can see in it, after the folio 25 (which, according to the Royal Order is that which ought to close the series of valid proceedings), the Report of the Auditor of the Department, which amassed the most grave and gratuitous accusations against the "Tornado;" the sentence of the 15th of December, which declared the prize to be legitimate and the crew prisoners of war, and commanded that the value of the ship should be distributed amongst those who captured her; the professional opinion of the Commander of Engineers, which has been legally rejected on account of his being at the same time judge and surveyor; the act, or "auto," of the 30th of January, which was expressly abrogated by the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal; the ratification of witnesses effected behind the backs of the captured and without their intervention; the sentence pronounced by the Board on the 21st of March, confirming the legitimacy of the prize, in spite of the protest of absence of defence drawn up by the captured; the Provisional Decree in virtue of which Captain Collier was obliged to pay for the judicial sealed paper: in a word, the whole summary and procedure of the Board, attributing to itself a judicial jurisdiction and character, which, according to the declaration of the Supreme Tribunal and that decided by Her Majesty's Government, it has never had, is still on foot and put in evidence.

This is what the captured have gained by a legal conflict of many months; these are the consequences produced by the sentence of a high Tribunal of Justice and the Royal Order of the Marine Minister: our judicial victories, our governmental appeals, the sanction of a Tribunal, the order of the Government,—all come to nought before the passive resistance of the Fiscal Board of the Department, which now puts into action that old rule of conduct which in other epochs some public Departments were in the habit of following, too jealous of their independence, viz., "We obey, but do not fulfil."

It is impossible that my principal should conform himself to this legal omission. It is impossible that he should consent that what he has obtained by dint of so many efforts, after such immense expense, struggling without truce or rest, be now shown to be a vain and illusory conquest, which the Fiscal Board of the Department can destroy at will. That which has been declared null cannot be valid; that which has been effaced from the "expediente" cannot appear again; that which by judicial and administrative mandates has ceased to exist cannot have vitality, nor form part of an "expediente" which now begins, or at least should begin now.

Let the Board comply with that commanded in the sentence of the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal, its hierarchical superior in judicial order, that which the Marine Minister, its hierarchical superior in administrative order, has decided by Royal Order; and then it may proclaim aloud the right it has to take cognizance of the "expediente" of

the "Tornado;" but until it comply with what has been ordained, until it cause to disappear that which is superfluous in the "expediente," that which is null by the express declaration of authorities adequate so to qualify it, it ought not and cannot be considered to possess legal qualification to take any part in the "expediente," until the Fiscal Board of the Department fulfil the obligation laid upon it by authorities to which it owes obedience, it is not possible that we should recognize its jurisdiction, nor submit ourselves to its authority.

And let it not be said that the presence of all these void proceedings matters nothing because they are not to be made use of, nor serve for any legal effect. No, that cannot be alleged as an excuse: that which has no longer any life in juridical order should disappear, as it disappears in physical order, and documents which would by the erroneous opinions they contain lead those into error who have now to enter upon the impartial examination of the subject on which they have no previously formed estimation, cannot be united to the "expediente."

We accept the Royal Order of the 27th of July, which, on declaring the Board of the Department competent, has thought just that the same individuals who judicially took cognizance of the matter of the "Tornado," and who decided as Judges, should hear the case again with administrative character; but since it has thus been decided, let it not be pretended that facts and documents which embody erroneous appreciations and absurd principles remain in force. In order that there may be no doubt of the legitimacy of what is now going to be done, it is necessary that even the remembrance of what has been done be obliterated; and certainly it is not an earnest of impartiality, nor a guarantee of just discrimination, to see figuring in the "expediente" acts which were successfully combated as void, and the nullity of which has been declared.

But although this extreme is most grave, although it cannot be denied that it is sufficient in itself to cause the nullity of all that the Board of the Department may now do; although basing ourselves upon this motive alone, we might refuse to take part in the proceedings, the want of compliance with the Royal Order is not limited to this point, but extends to others no less important.

The said Royal Order of the 27th of July commands that the Board of the Department setting out from the documents drawn up as far as the said folio (folio 25 of the roll), which are the base of the proceeding, shall hear the interested parties to draw up the case, hold session in the same manner as it did to decide the "expediente" of the Chilean barque "Alice Ward" on the 22nd of June and 9th of July, 1866, without the assistance of the Commander of Engineers, and having heard the accusations and pleas for the defence, and taken into consideration the proof which the ordinances exact, pronounce what final decision it may consider just, communicate the same to the interested parties, and afterwards send the "expediente" to the Government, in order that it may decide, consulting the State Council, &c.

This is what the Royal Order commands, and it is very clear what proceeding the Board of the Department ought to adopt as a Prize Court: setting out from folio 25 of the roll, and leaving aside all the rest which has been declared null, it must hear the interested parties to draw up the case. Well, then, when or how has been put into practice, or has been manifested the intention to put into practice, this preliminary hearing of the interested parties? Does the Board perchance fulfil this part of the Royal Order when it summons the captured by means of edicts, when it concedes to them an unprorogable term of ten days' to make out their defence? How can the Board hear the interested parties for the purpose of drawing up the case, when it only summons two of the captured, and when it orders them to make out their defence in writing? How is it possible that it hear the accusations and pleas for the defence if there be no one to make the first, and there be consequently no necessity to expound the latter? How can it take into consideration the proof enacted by the law, when it neither gives delay to furnish it, nor even refers to it in its decisions? Does the Board pretend that the written defence may substitute the oral hearing, that the presence of all the captured is unnecessary, and that in the unprorogable term of ten days proof may be furnished to set aside accusations which do not even exist, because the opinion of the Auditor, which was the only accusation which existed against the "Tornado," has disappeared, or at least ought to disappear, from the "expediente?"

Really what is happening is inconceivable, and the mind resists against believing it even after seeing it; it is continually declared that the Board is an "administrative corporation," and that it ought to take cognizance administratively in the matter of prizes, and the Board still insists upon preserving its "judicial" character: only thus can be understood how after the sentence of the Supreme Tribunal, it still speaks of "autos" or writs, calls its resolutions decrees, issues summonses, considers that it has authority to declare the delays it concedes irrevocable, exacts special representatives of

the captured in the place where it holds its sessions, and absolves itself from complying with what is ordered by the Minister in conformity with the State Council.

But the Board is an administrative body, purely administrative; it acts in virtue of delegation from Her Majesty's Government, and has to conform itself strictly in its conduct with what the Government may have previously decided. It can neither alter nor omit anything, and only in case of doubt must it consult the fountain of administrative power from which its delegation proceeds. Much have the captured obtained after so long a time if, in spite of what has been decided, the Board should still believe itself arbiter of their fortunes and at liberty to alter the orders of the Government.

But, moreover, there is another omission of fulfilment of the Royal Order which we must not omit, and which is important: it is stated in the Royal Order that the Board is competent to take cognizance, administratively, of the "expediente;" the Board is instructed to hold its sessions as they were held to decide the matter of the Chilean barque "Alice Ward," without the assistance of the Commander of Engineers,—for the latter, in virtue of the reclamations made by Captain Collier, has been rejected as Chairman of the Board because he emitted his professional opinion respecting the "Tornado." In all these dispositions the competency is not extended to more persons than those who actually compose the Board, and even one of these is eliminated. But in spite of this the Board of the Department, still unable to shake off the judicial habits which it has falsely acquired, cause to intervene in the "expediente" a public functionary who has nothing whatever to do with the administrative attributes of the Board. We refer to the Notary who certifies all the proceedings, who would be entirely in his place if the Departmental Tribunal, of which he is actuary, took cognizance of the "expediente" of the "Tornado," but who does not belong to the Fiscal Board and consequently should not intervene in the matter. The Board has its own Secretary who is he who ought to fill the post now confided to the Notary, and only in this manner will be carried out what the Government orders and what is just. Although the Board receives the name of Prize Court ("Tribunal de Presas"), it knows already, by what the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal has decided and by what the Government has resolved, in conformity with the State Council, that it is not a real Tribunal but an administrative body fulfilling a governmental Commission, and, to execute it with precision, it does not require a Notary, because it has, in its own body, a Secretary who certifies the resolutions with his presence and signature. The intervention of the Notary of the Tribunal, in addition to being contrary to law and opposed to the spirit and to the letter of the Royal Order of the 27th of July, offers grave inconveniences which must be evident to all, and causes us notable prejudice; and although this is not the opportune moment to enumerate them, the occasion is propitious to making this new protest, which will in due time have its legal effect.

Consequently we are opposed to the addition to the Board of a functionary foreign to the Board, and we desire that, in this point as in all, the law may be scrupulously carried out.

There is, moreover, in the "expediente" a circumstance which we have purposely left until now, because it constitutes a new charge against the Board, and because it presents a character of unexampled anomaly, in consequence of the sentences dictated by the Board when it believed itself to be legally authorized to proceed judicially, and of having in them declared the crew of the "Tornado" to be prisoners of war. The third mate of this ship, John MacPherson, who was gratuitously supposed to be a first-class engineer of the Chilean navy, was really considered a prisoner of war, his case not being affected by the Royal prerogative which set at liberty the rest of the crew of the seized vessel. Well, then, this individual, notwithstanding that the whole of the sentences dictated by the Prize Court have been annulled; notwithstanding that with them have disappeared, or should disappear, the accusations made against him; notwithstanding that he has not yet been judged (because now the "expediente" begins anew), has continued and still continues to be a prisoner of war, without any one having taken the trouble to carry out on this head the sentence of the Supreme Tribunal, nor the Royal Order of the Government, both of which, by declaring the previous proceedings void, clearly annulled also the position of prisoner in which the said MacPherson was considered. And here we have an individual against whom there is no proof, no legal accusation, who has not yet been judged, and who has been waiting more than a year to be told whether he is guilty or innocent, who is nevertheless, in point of fact, a prisoner of war, and is completely deprived of his liberty. And as up to the present there is nothing which legally authorizes the supposition that John MacPherson is a functionary of the Chilean Republic; as all that has been said upon this subject has been declared to be null and void; as the

legal presumption is purely and simply that John MacPherson is a British subject, who was travelling in an English ship under the protection of her flag; and as up to the present it is impossible not to treat him with the consideration due to a British subject, it results from this that the Spanish Government, represented by the Board of the Department of Cadiz, detains a citizen of Great Britain as prisoner of war, without there being the slightest justification for his detention.

We therefore protest against all that has been decided upon by the Board of the Department since the Royal Order of the 27th of July was brought to its knowledge; and we will have nothing to do with an "expediente" which even at the commencement has so many proofs of its own nullity. We were disposed to undertake the defence of the seized ship with the fullest conviction that we should prove her innocence. We might have seized upon the declaration of nullity of the old "expediente," and might have demanded the immediate restoration of the ship; because the lengthened period which has passed since her capture, and which has been employed to accumulate proceedings which are null and void, furnishes a sufficient motive to allege a denial of justice ("denegacion de justicia"). We might with reason have said that it was not just to prolong for a further period the undefinable position in which the "Tornado" is placed, and that it was not our fault if all that had been done had turned out to be contrary to law. But as we do not fear the examination of our acts, as we wait quietly for the results of the "expediente," and as we desire to convince the Governments of Spain and England of our complete innocence, we have preferred to submit ourselves anew to an administrative "expediente" in which we believed the law would be respected. Unfortunately this is not the case; we are required to submit ourselves to onerous conditions which we cannot accept; the law which is prejudicial to us is applied in all its rigour; the law which protects us is not fulfilled. We have obtained complete justice in the War and Marine Tribunal; we have obtained from the Government the recognition of some of our rights; but just when we should obtain the natural advantages promised by these results the Departmental Board interposes its authority, and our legitimate hopes vanish. This legal conflict, so disproportionate, cannot continue: all the difficulties are ours; all the facilities are for our adversaries; and if at last we have to succumb, weary of making vain efforts, because there exists a decided intention to condemn us, we had far better withdraw at once from an inglorious and objectless debate: thus at least we shall not exhaust our endeavours in a barren undertaking; and can at least, before relapsing into compulsory silence, put forth the following formal and pertinent protests:—

1. That the sentence pronounced by the Supreme War and Marine Tribunal on the 23rd of May, 1867, has not been complied with.

2. That the commands of the Royal Order of the 27th of July, 1867, respecting the form in which the Board of the Department has to draw up the new governmental "expediente," have not been fulfilled.

3. That the Board of the Department wrongly insists upon attaching to all its acts a judicial character and seal, foreign to its purely governmental attributes.

4. That right of intervention in the "expediente" is given to a public functionary who does not belong to the Board of the Department.

5. That one of the crew of the "Tornado" is held a prisoner of war, when, in consequence of declaration of the total nullity of the former "expediente," neither charges, proofs, nor legal decisions exist against him to justify such consideration.

In view of all these protests,—

May it please your Excellency to consider them duly made to the effects which correspond to them according to law, suspending the course of the "expediente" until Her Catholic Majesty's Government has decided respecting them what it thinks most just and to the purpose. I protest likewise against any prejudice being caused to my principal in the meantime, by any proceeding or decision of the Board of the Department with relation to the matter of the "Tornado."

I furthermore declare that the obligation imposed upon me by the Board of the Department, in its Decree of the 5th instant, to name a representative in San Fernando in order that he may intervene in the steps which may be taken, is foreign to the nature of administrative proceeding; for only in certain cases which the law indulgently indicates is such representation exacted at the official centres which have to decide the matters submitted to their consideration. There is not in the Ordinances of the Navy any article which obliges the Undersigned to that double representation; and no administrative precedent can be cited in support of the decision which the Board of the Department has seen fit to adopt. The "Mine Law" is the only one which, for reasons easily understood, exacts a representative of the mining societies in the place of residence of the adminis-

trative authority which takes cognizance of such matters; but this very exaction of the law referred to proves that the special representation is obligatory only when the law explicitly makes it so.

In matters of prizes the law does not exact that obligation, and if it was not imposed when the Board believed itself to be a real Tribunal with judicial attributes, now that it has been decided that it is an administrative corporation that applies the law by delegation from the Government, it cannot usurp powers or practices foreign to those which the public administration always exercises. The deponent is the legitimate representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, and when it is necessary to communicate with the Fiscal Board of the Department will do so directly; but in order to know the resolutions which the Board may adopt it is not necessary that he should name a second representative, because the administrative organization is so well combined that there is no authority, however high it may be or however distant, that cannot by means of its Agents put itself in direct communication with the least of those under its administration. Consequently, the Board of the Department can do what other administrative centres do and communicate with the deponent, when it may think fit, through its subaltern agents, and, if it has none, avail itself of other administrative authorities who will communicate its decision to the Undersigned. This is equitable and to the purpose: if adopting this method, which is the legal method and that which is universally employed in administrative matters which never require solicitor ("procurador") or legally empowered proxy, delays are caused, it will be in the natural course of things, much as we regret it, and they must be endured patiently as other branches of administration suffer them when they communicate their decisions to the interested parties in the said branches. Nevertheless, it has never happened that a Ministry or any other administrative centre has imposed, for the sole and simple reason of distance, upon any under the administration the obligation of being represented at such centre. The Minister dictates his orders, the Secretaries forward them; they are sent to the Governor, then they pass to the Mayor ("Alcalde"), and so on, running round the great administrative chain formed to secure the greatest accuracy and for the mutual advantage of the administrators, and those under their administration, the most important decisions of the highest circle of Government arrive at the most distant part of the country. There is no reason to vary, in the present case, what is invariably practised on so large a scale. Therefore:—

May it please your Excellency to give the necessary orders, so that the Board of the Department, making use of the means within its reach, may communicate its decisions to the deponent without obliging him to name a special representative in San Fernando; this the deponent also hopes to obtain from your Excellency's high sense of justice.

Cadiz, October 20, 1867.

(Signed) WM. Mc PHERSON.

To the President of the Board of the Department,
San Fernando.

No. 16.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 20, 1867.

I RECEIVED from Mr. Consul Dunlop, about three weeks ago, a copy of a paper communicated to him by Mr. McPherson, the Representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, and which had been sent in by him to the Commission at Cadiz, charged with the proceedings in the case of the "Tornado."

I presume Mr. Dunlop will have furnished Her Majesty's Legation with a copy of his despatch and of its inclosures; but in case he should not have done so, I forward one herewith.

I have to instruct you to state to Mr. Dunlop that Her Majesty's Government do not adopt Mr. McPherson's view that, from the circumstance of his having been advised to present a protest, or from the statements or arguments contained in that document, a denial of justice is established; and that Her Majesty's Government do not concur in the opinion expressed by Mr. McPherson, that it is high time that Her Majesty's Government should demand the restoration of the ship, or compensation for alleged unwarrantable acts since her capture.

You will further state to Mr. Dunlop that he should continue to support John McPherson as a distressed British seaman.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 17.

Mr. Walsham to Lord Stanley.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord, *Madrid, November 25, 1867.*

AS I had very good reasons for believing that Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz should be made acquainted, as soon as possible, with the contents of your Lordship's despatch to Sir John Crampton of the 20th instant, I addressed to him the communication copy of which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

Her Majesty's Legation had not received from Mr. Dunlop copies of the documents to which your Lordship refers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Mr. Walsham to Consul Dunlop.

Sir, *Madrid, November 24, 1867.*

IN a despatch which reached me this morning, Lord Stanley states, that about three weeks ago he received from you a copy of a paper which had been communicated to you by Mr. McPherson, the representative of Mr. Saul Isaac, and which had been sent in by him to the Commission at Cadiz, charged with the proceedings in the case of the "Tornado."

Lord Stanley presumes you will have furnished Her Majesty's Legation with a copy of your despatch and its inclosures.

I have, however, in any case, been instructed by his Lordship to inform you with reference to it, that Her Majesty's Government do not adopt Mr. McPherson's view that, from the circumstance of his having been advised to present a Protest, or from the statements or arguments contained in that document, a denial of justice is established; and that Her Majesty's Government do not concur in the opinion expressed by Mr. McPherson that it is high time Her Majesty's Government should demand the restoration of the ship, or compensation for alleged unwarrantable acts since her capture.

I am further directed to state to you, that you should continue to support John McPherson as a distressed British seaman.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

No. 18.

Mr. Walsham to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 2.)

My Lord, *Madrid, November 29, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, in reply to the communication which I addressed to him on the 24th instant, embodying the contents of your Lordship's despatch to Sir John Crampton of the 20th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN WALSHAM.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Consul Dunlop to Mr. Walsham.

Sir, *Cadiz, November 26, 1867.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, dated 24th instant.

The paper to which you refer, sent to the Foreign Office from this Consulate, regarding the "Tornado" case, was forwarded direct on the 24th October, as Mr. William McPherson urgently requested that no time should be lost in laying it

before Lord Stanley. It was a lengthy document; and as I was under the impression that all it contained had been previously communicated by M. Retortillo to Sir J. Crampton, I did not think it worth while to trouble the Legation with copies of it, and of Mr. William McPherson's letter.

I inclosed it in a hasty covering despatch, which briefly recapitulated the objections taken in it to the action of the recent Junta at San Fernando. I have the honour of inclosing herewith a copy of my said despatch, and have to-day verbally communicated to Mr. William McPherson what you write respecting Lord Stanley's remarks on his letter to me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

No. 19.

Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co. to Lord Stanley.—(*Received December* 4.)

7, *East India Avenue, Leadenhall Street, London,*
December 3, 1867.

My Lord,

REFERRING to the representations which we had the honour to submit to your Lordship on the 13th and 27th September last, we now beg leave to call your Lordship's attention to the flagrant illegality of the further proceedings of the Spanish authorities in the case of our screw steamer "Tornado."

We may remind your Lordship that, upon the 8th of February last, your Lordship wrote to Sir John Crampton as follows:—"And if it be true, as it is alleged, though Her Majesty's Government can hardly believe it to be true, that the appeal is to be made to the same Court which pronounced the original sentence, the position of the defendant is so aggravated that it is a mere mockery to offer him an appeal. He has been condemned already behind his back by the Court whom he must persuade to recognize their own wrong-doing as an indispensable condition of his acquittal on appeal."

Now, as the members of the Junta at Cadiz before which "the mockery" of a "new trial" is taking place are the very same persons who tried and condemned the "Tornado" and her crew in the first instance, a fair and impartial judgment cannot be expected from them, and they are, in your Lordship's showing, disqualified to retry the case.

In support of our view of what constitutes "the indispensable requisites" of "a duly constituted Prize Court," we beg to quote the two following passages from Lord Clarendon's despatches to Sir John Crampton of 1st and 20th December, 1865; in the former your Lordship's predecessor in the Foreign Department thus expressed himself:—"The neutral has a right to be tried before a properly constituted Court in the country of the captor, with all the forms as well as the substance of justice. He has a right to agents, counsel, a proper forum, and a proper appellate tribunal." (See page 69 of "Correspondence respecting War between Chile and Spain, 1866.") His Lordship goes on to declare these to be "indispensable requisites of international law." In his despatch of 20th December, 1865, his Lordship insisted that "a neutral has by international law a right to expect that a Civil Judge of sufficient legal experience and ability, and wholly disinterested in the cause, shall try the question whether his ship has been lawfully seized or not." (Idem, page 104.)

The naval officer who presides over the Cadiz Junta may be a highly honourable man, but he is not a "Civil Judge," or possessed of "sufficient legal experience and ability;" nor are he and his colleagues "disinterested in the issue."

When your Lordship, in your despatch of 30th May last, consented, conditionally and under reserve of our legal rights, to a new but "proper judicial investigation," your Lordship assuredly did not anticipate that the investigation so suggested would be entrusted to the very Junta which had been guilty of those grave errors of omission and commission against which your Lordship found it your duty to remonstrate and protest.

Having stated our objections to the constitution of the Court, we proceed to point out the irregularity and illegality of its recent proceedings.

The judgment of the Supreme Court of War and Marine of 23rd May last, which was ratified by the Spanish Council of State, pronounced the sentence of condemnation by the Prize Court of Cadiz, and all the proceedings and the evidence on which it was founded, to be absolutely and *ab initio*, null and void.

According to the law of Spain, that judgment, so ratified, was final and irrevocable, and it ought to have been carried out without delay.

Yet, setting it at nought, and denying us justice, the Spanish Executive, by a Royal Order, dated 27th of July last, directed the Junta at Cadiz to treat as valid, and to use, on a fresh trial, a great part of those very proceedings which have been declared null and void.

The part of the proceedings referred to, is precisely that against the validity and admissibility of which Her Majesty's Government have repeatedly remonstrated, and the untrustworthy character of which was exposed by the Report of Mr. Consul Graham Dunlop, and the depositions of the "Tornado's" crew upon their re-examination.

Your Lordship, in your despatch to Sir John Crampton, of the 18th January last, instructing him "to protest against the sentence by which the 'Tornado' was decreed to be prize, and her officers and crew placed, as prisoners of war, at the disposal of the Captain-General of the Department," complained of the Cadiz Court having "imported a great variety of extrinsic evidence, if it is to be so called, from newspapers, from diplomatic correspondence, public Acts of the State, the conduct of other vessels, and various other sources." And your Lordship added, "all this evidence has been produced behind the backs of the claimants; and it is to be observed, that it is wholly different in kind from the evidence afforded by the ship's papers and the depositions of the crew."

This is the inadmissable evidence of which the Cadiz Junta seeks again to avail itself, and against the use of which we once more solemnly protest.

The Spanish authorities, disregarding the final decision of the Supreme Tribunal, would treat and use as valid, on the pending trial, the greater part of those proceedings which the Supreme Tribunal annulled *in toto;* a part which, to use your Lordship's words, was concocted "behind the backs, and without the knowledge of the claimants;" a part which served as basis of the iniquitous sentence of condemnation of the 15th December last.

Against that sentence Sir John Crampton, by order of Her Majesty's Government, protested, precisely because it rested upon such irregular and illegal evidence; and with reference to it your Lordship declared (on the 11th March last), that "no subsequent decision of a Court," even "of appeal, could justify, rectify, or uphold" it.

We therefore, respectfully, but earnestly, submit to your Lordship, that the constitution of the existing Prize Court at Cadiz is at variance with the admitted requisites of International Law, and, even tested by those of the Spanish law, is utterly illegal.

That the proceedings of which our property and our rights are now the subjects, have been condemned not only by your Lordship, but by the highest authority in Spain as null and void. And that we have been for fifteen months, and still are, the victims of delays and procrastinations, which would alone constitute a denial of justice warranting, if ever any such denial did warrant, the prompt and decisive intervention of Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) S. ISAAC, CAMPBELL AND Co.

No. 20.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, December* 6, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, calling attention to the present state of the "Tornado" case; and I am to state to you in reply that your letter will be considered.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 21.

Mr. Thomson to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord, *Santiago, October* 26, 1867.

TWO days ago a discussion took place in the Chamber of Deputies, in consequence of a charge made against the Government by a Member of the Opposition party, of their having been guilty of remissness in not obtaining from foreign markets the ships of war requisite for a successful prosecution of the war with Spain, and the Minister of Marine having in reply to this accusation produced official documents to prove that they had used every exertion to supply the want of ships of war from England and the United States,

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Santiago Journal "Republican," the semi-official organ of the Government, of yesterday, in which the discussion is reported, and copies given of the documents referred to, and with it a translation of such of them as refer to vessels purchased, or attempted to be purchased in England.

It may be assumed that in refuting a charge of the above nature, the Minister of Marine would not fail to allude to every vessel which the Chilean Government had endeavoured to procure. Putting aside therefore the two corvettes, incidentally alluded to, which, being built in England, and being in an unfinished state when the war broke out, were therefore detained there by Her Majesty's Government, we find five alluded to in the above documents.

One, the "Henrietta," now in Chile; another, the iron-clad frigate described as that "of Denmark," but previously named the "Oscar;" the third described as the iron-clad frigate of the Turkish Government; and the remaining two referred to as the steamers "N" and "N" of Glasgow.

With respect to the two latter vessels, I would beg leave to observe that the whole of this correspondence, with a comparison of its dates, tends to strengthen the conviction that they are the vessels "Cyclone" and "Pampero," or as more recently and better known, "Tornado," the latter being the one alluded to in the despatch No. 1,056 of the Chilean Minister of Marine to Señor Carvallo, the Chilean Plenipotentiary in England, as the screw steamer called "N," built expressly as a war cruiser.

It is, I believe, customary when vessels adapted for war purposes are acquired by a belligerent in a clandestine manner, to pay to the fitter out, when the vessel is to be delivered at the risk of the latter, a fifth part of the full price of the vessel, but, as in the case of the "N" and "N," the constant orders of the Government were not only to purchase, but to arm and man them, it may be assumed from the extract to the despatch of Señor Covarrubias of the 16th of August, 1866, to Señor Carvallo, that they had been already purchased when Señor Carvallo wrote his despatch of the 13th of June, and that as only one of them, the "Cyclone," reached the Chilean waters, the other was the "Tornado," captured by the "Gerona," and also that they were paid for in full, as no business person entering into such speculations, and receiving in advance a fifth of the price of a ship, when smuggled out as an unarmed neutral ship, would run the additional risk incurred from dispatching one, armed and manned, without first receiving the full price of the vessel as agreed upon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Translation of various Documents presented in Congress by the Chilean Minister of Marine during a Discussion in the Chamber of Deputies, referring to Ships of War purchased in England and in the United States by the Chilean Government.

To Señor Don Manuel Carvallo, Minister Plenipotentiary of Chile in Brussels and London.

Santiago, May 1, 1866.

The Government desires to obtain at whatever cost the necessary elements to terminate as speedily as possible the war with Spain.

It has positive intelligence that there are two light ships well adapted for war purposes for sale in England, the "N" and another of equal or superior force to it. The Government commissions you to purchase both those vessels in addition to the iron-clad "Denmark," and dispatch the three without delay to the Pacific.

You can understand that the longer the war continues the greater becomes the difficulties to carry it on with the energy which the country desires, and, therefore, greater the resources which Spain may employ to attack us.

Persuaded of this the Government demands of you the employment of all your activity, intelligence, and knowledge of that country to obtain for it the powerful elements alluded to, and without which it will be impossible to obtain the signal advantages which it is indispensable to obtain over an enemy which has inflicted so many evils on the Republic.

The Government confides much in your patriotism, and it doubts not that in putting in your hands the fate of your country, you will fulfil satisfactorily a commission as important as it is honourable. In fact it places no restriction whatever upon you in giving full completion to this Commission.

Although I consider it useless to suggest to you any of the means of which you may avail yourself in order to obtain the best result in the present Commission, because you who are well acquainted with the facts will be able to overcome the vigilance and other impediments which may present themselves in the dispatch of those vessels. Still I think it right to caution you that I consider it of much utility to avoid all communication with the naval officers of the Republic residing there, and with every other person belonging to that Legation, known by the spies of our enemy, even to the length of preventing those officers from coming even as passengers in the vessels.

It is absolutely necessary that the guns of our corvettes* be sent out in the vessels alluded to, or in any other giving full security of their being delivered in good condition in any of the ports of the Republic, taking care that they may come with sufficient secrecy, and so as not to suffer from damp.

Lastly, I repeat that the Government considers absolutely indispensable the acquisition of the three vessels I have alluded, and without which the war will not obtain those satisfactions which the honour of Chile and America exact, and thus render sterile and frustrated the great sacrifices up to this time made by the country, and the hopes reposed in us by the enlightened world.

(Signed) JOSE MANUEL PINTO.

On the 9th of the same month the same charge was repeated in the following terms :—

"*To Señor Don Manuel Carvallo, Minister Plenipotentiary of Chile in Brussels and London.*

"*Santiago, May* 9, 1866.

"By the previous steamer I gave you in the name of the Government, precise and detailed instructions respecting the purchase of the iron-clad "Denmark," and of the "N," and another of the same class, or superior to it, for sale in England.

"I now renew to you the order to purchase the said three vessels as indispensable for the happy and expeditious termination of the war.

"I shall not trouble myself by stating how much the country expects from your activity and great knowledge for the rapid completion of this Commission.

"Act with energy and ability in this sense, and you will satisfy the highest aspirations of your country and of the Supreme Government.

"It remains for me to state to you how much we require muskets, and the advantage of your sending without delay those ordered in previous communications, and which, according to your despatch of the 30th of January, you were unable to purchase from want of funds.

"Now that you can count upon those funds, see to their being dispatched as early as possible to any ot the ports of Chile.

(Signed) "JOSE MANUEL PINTO."

Under the same date as above, the following communication was made to him :—

"*To Señor Don Manuel Carvallo, Minister Plenipotentiary of Chile in Brussels and London.*

"*Santiago, May* 9, 1866.

"A screw steamer lying at Glasgow, called "N," built expressly as a war cruizer, has been offered to the Government.

"The Government, with the view of purchasing it through the medium of the agents of Don Augustin Edwards, wishes you to charge Commander Salcedo with the examination of the vessel.

"If from that examination it results that the vessel possesses the qualities of force and great speed, and is in good condition, you may tell the agents that its purchase is suitable, and consequently that they will take steps to prepare it for sea, and dispatch it to some one of the southern ports of the Republic.

"You will have no other part to take in this matter than to cause the vessel to be examined by the most confidential and fit person, and to indicate to the agents of Edwards that it is good and answers the purpose of the State.

"If you have not sent the artillery of our corvettes, you may take advantage of this opportunity, if you do not consider it hazardous, and forward it by this vessel when she leaves that country.

(Signed) "JOSE MANUEL PINTO."

* Those being built in England, and whose dispatch was prevented by the breaking out of the war.

On the 2nd of June the following despatch was addressed to Señor Rodriguez, private agent of the Government of Chile in Great Britain :—

"*To Don Ambrosio Rodriguez, &c.*

"*Santiago, June* 2, 1866.

"The obstacles which continue to be encountered in the purchase of the iron-clad frigate 'Of Denmark' throw us out greatly. We trust that you have exerted all your zeal for the service of the Republic in overcoming them.

"I reiterate to you warmly my previous recommendations with respect to the steamers 'N' and 'N,' which Señor Carvallo has been instructed to purchase. I do not doubt that you will have worked efficaciously in overcoming any difficulty in that matter.

"Every day we require more urgently powerful ships of war, and every sacrifice is to be made in acquiring them.

(Signed) "ALVARO COVARRUBIAS."

Under the same date as the preceding, the following communication was addressed to Señor Carvallo, Minister Plenipotentiary in England :—

"*Santiago, June* 2, 1866.

"I have received your despatches Nos. 77 and 78, of the 14th and 15th of April last."

Here follow three paragraphs referring to the iron-clad "Of Denmark."

"I reiterate to you my instructions for the purchase of the steamers 'N' and 'N,' to which the Minister of Marine has referred in his correspondence with you. Celerity in concluding this matter is of the highest importance. It is requisite to employ every means to acquire those vessels as soon as possible.

"We trust that the 'Henriette' will not have experienced any fresh difficulties, and may speedily reach the Pacific.

"We have no intelligence yet of the arrival of the Peruvian iron-clads 'Huascar' and 'Independencia' in Chile.

(Signed) "ALVARO COVARRUBIAS."

On the 2nd of July, 1866, the following despatch was addressed to Senor Carvallo :—

"*Santiago, July* 2, 1866.

"It is unnecessary for me to state to you how much we have been counteracted by seeing our expectations of acquiring the iron-clad 'Of Denmark' almost entirely frustrated. We trust that you have lost no time in securing the two steamers to compensate for the loss of that ship. In addition, you will have received a little later instructions from the Department of Marine with respect to their acquisition.

(Signed) "ALVARO COVARRUBIAS."

Under the same date of the 3rd July, 1866, a despatch was addressed to the private Agent of the Chilean Government in London to the following effect :—

"*Santiago, July* 2, 1866.

"As you may have delayed your departure from that country, I acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th of May last.

"In it you report in the matters of the steamer 'Henriette,' whose arrival at Monte Video is not yet announced, and on our corvettes now building and about to be completed, as also on the unexpected difficulty which had prevented the purchase of the iron-clad frigate 'Of Denmark,' and the want of which was about to be supplied by two other ships.

"I trust that this latter purchase has been speedily terminated, and without difficulty.

"I am about to transmit to the Minister of Marine a copy of the despatch, with its inclosures.

"If this despatch should reach you in that country, I instruct you to return to Chile as early as possible.

(Signed) "ALVARO COVARRUBIAS."

On the 9th of July, 1866, the Minister of Marine addressed to Señor Carvallo the despatch under No. 1,436, of which the following is an extract :—

"*Santiago, July* 9, 1866.

"The Government counts upon four vessels purchased in the United States, two of which are now on the way out, and the two others ought to have left at the present date.

"In this sense the Government resolves, as the number of small vessels, not iron-clads, is now sufficient for what the war requires, you are to purchase only the "N," if you are not already compromised for the two which, in conformity with my former instructions, you were to purchase.

(Signed) "JOSE MANUEL PINTO."

On the 30th of June, 1866, the Chilean Minister in London, Don Manuel Carvello, addressed a despatch to the Minister of Marine, of which the following is an extract:—

"*Chilean Legation in Great Britain, London,*

"M. le Ministre, "*June* 30, 1866.

"In reply to your note No. 1065 of the 16th of May, I have the honour to confirm what is stated in mine of the 13th instant, and to add the following.

"The remainder refers to a Turkish iron-clad frigate which had been offered for sale.

(Signed) "MANUEL CARVALLO."

The preceding despatch was received at Santiago the middle of August, and on the 16th of that month Señor Covarrubias, the Chilean Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressed to Señor Carvallo, the Chilean Plenipotentiary in London, the despatch which commences as follows:—

"*Santiago, August* 16, 1866.

"I have received No. 90, dated the 1st of July last.

"We trust that the armament and manning of the 'N' and of the 'N' have been completed without impediment, and that both steamers will have already left those waters on their course to the Pacific.

"The remainder refers to the Turkish iron-clad frigate.

(Signed) "ALVARO COVARRUBIAS."

No. 22.

Mrs. Mc Pherson to Lord Stanley.—(Received December 24.)

My Lord, 14, *Bank Street, Greenock, December* 23, 1867.

SEEING that during the recent Session of Parliament no reference whatever was made to the case of my husband, John McPherson, who was taken from the British ship "Tornado," which was illegally captured by the Spaniards, and as other difficulties with Spain were brought up, I was very much disappointed, and feel very anxious to obtain his release, to which he was entitled along with the rest of the officers and crew nine months ago.

If, as the Spanish Government allege, he be a Chilian subject, it is but reasonable to expect that he should have been liberated when the exchange of prisoners took place four months ago; but they have failed to prove that such is the case, and as he is acknowledged to be a British subject, even by the Spaniards themselves, surely we have a right to expect that it is the duty of the British Government to see to his immediate release, which I hope your Lordship will esteem it to be your duty to obtain for him.

I beg to remind your Lordship of the promise which you gave me on the 7th of June last, viz., that Her Majesty's Government would not lose sight of his case, therefore I hope your Lordship will exert your powerful influence on his behalf, and pardon this intrusion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. Mc PHERSON.

No. 23.

Mr. Hammond to Mrs. Mc Pherson.

Madam, *Foreign Office, December* 26, 1867.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowlege the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, in which you apply for the interference of Her Majesty's Government to obtain the release of your husband who has been detained by the Spanish authorities as one of the crew of the "Tornado."

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 24.

Mr. Hammond to Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, January* 6, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acquaint you that, having considered in communication with the Law Advisers of the Crown, the statements contained in your letter of the 3rd of December, respecting the proceedings of the Spanish Government in the case of the "Tornado," his Lordship is unable, on those statements, to come to the conclusion that the constitution of the existing Prize Court at Cadiz is at variance with the ordinary requisites of international law, or that, tested by those of Spanish law, it is illegal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 25.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

(Extract.) *Foreign Office, January* 6, 1868.

I INCLOSE, for your information, copies of some further correspondence with Messrs. Isaac, Campbell and Co.*

I should wish you to ascertain how soon a decision in the case of the "Tornado" is likely to be arrived at. The case has been long pending and it has attracted so much attention in this country that it is very desirable that the Spanish Government should hasten the proceedings as much as possible.

No. 26.

Sir. J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 18.)

My Lord, *Madrid, January* 13, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz, together with copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Dunlop by John M'Pherson, mate of the "Tornado," respecting the continued detention of the latter, as a prisoner under parole, by the Spanish authorities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

Consul Dunlop to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Cadiz, January* 9, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to state that the inclosed letter from John M'Pherson, third mate of the "Tornado," has only reached me now.

I shall write to him to-day, mentioning that I have forwarded it to you for transmission, if you see fit, to Lord Stanley as he requests.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAHAM DUNLOP.

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Mr. J. Mc Pherson to Consul Dunlop.

Sir, *Puerto Real, January* 1, 1868.

IT is now sixteen months since I have been a prisoner here. I am still (although on parole) detained in that capacity on the plea of having been in the Chilean service. My parole has been honourably kept, and no word reaches me of any prospect of liberation, although I hear that all the Chilean prisoners have long ago been released and left Spain.

I ask the favour of your representing my case once more to Lord Stanley.

* Nos. 19, 20, and 24.

I have never acknowledged myself to be by rights a Chilean prisoner; but since all the real Chilean prisoners have been liberated, it seems hard that I should be kept.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN Mc PHERSON.

No. 27.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 21.)

My Lord, *Madrid, January 17, 1868.*

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th instant, I have endeavoured to ascertain how soon a decision in the case of the "Tornado" is likely to be arrived at.

For this purpose I have addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs a note, copy of which I have the honour to inclose, requesting his Excellency to inform me of the present state of the proceedings, and expressing the desire of Her Majesty's Government that the long-pending question may be brought to a conclusion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 27.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Arrazola.

M. le Ministre, *Madrid, January 16, 1868.*

I HAVE been directed by Her Majesty's Government to endeavour to ascertain how soon a decision in the case of the "Tornado" is likely to be arrived at.

The case has, as your Excellency is aware, been long pending, and it is one which has attracted so much attention in England, that Her Majesty's Government cannot but feel that it is very desirable that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty should hasten the proceedings as much as possible.

I should, therefore, be particularly obliged by your Excellency enabling me to inform my Government of the present position of those proceedings, and to hold out a reasonable prospect of their speedy termination.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 28.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received January 26.)

My Lord, *Madrid, January 24, 1868.*

IN my despatch to your Lordship of the 17th instant, I transmitted a copy of the note which, in accordance with your Lordship's instruction of the 4th of this month, I had addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs with the view of ascertaining the actual state of the proceedings connected with the case of the "Tornado" and the probability of a decision being arrived at.

Señor Arrazola's reply reached me to-day, and I have the honour to inclose it herewith in translation.

His Excellency states that Mr. Saul Isaac, through his legal advisers, had protested against the proceedings of the Court of Cadiz, and addressed a Petition to the Minister of Marine in this sense.

Señor Arrazola adds that as this protest calls in question the Royal Order of the 27th of July last, which emanated from the Council of State, the matter has again been referred to that body, and that their decision as to the merits of Mr. Isaac's fresh objections may be shortly expected.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 28.

Señor Arrazola to Sir J. Crampton.

(Translation.)

Sir. *Palace, January* 18, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received your note of the 16th instant, in which, by instructions from your Government, you ask me in what state the question of the "Tornado" is, and by when, more or less, this matter will be terminated.

With respect to the first point, I have to inform your Excellency that Don Eusebio Casaes y Castro, styling himself agent of Mr. Saul Isaac, owner of the above-mentioned steamer, presented an appeal to the Ministry of Marine, protesting against the proceedings of the Prize Court established in the Department of Cadiz. And as the principal protest formed refers to the Royal Order of the 27th of July last, and against the decision of the Council of State who issued the former, this matter has been submitted to the said body, in order that, having examined it, it may decree what can legally be done.

In spite of the great amount of business to be transacted by the Council of State it is not to be believed that it will delay long in giving its opinion upon this particular, but as the parties interested in the "Tornado," distrusting the end of their unfounded pretensions, do not cease to appeal to the means which the law allows, in order to render ineffectual the final resolution, it is not possible easily to foresee the time which will pass before this vexatious question will be ended.

Having thus answered the two points embraced in your Excellency's note of the 16th instant, it only remains for me to renew the assurances, &c.

(Signed) L. ARRAZOLA.

No. 29.

Captain Collier to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 8.)

My Lord, 1, *Hurdwick Place, Hampstead Road, February* 7, 1868.

I WOULD be much obliged if your Lordship would kindly inform me whether there is any chance of a speedy settlement with the Spanish Government in the case of the "Tornado," as seventeen months have now elapsed since the seizure, and neither myself nor crew have heard a word about it for some time, and are naturally very anxious about it. Permit me to call your Lordship's attention to my Petition, presented to both Houses, by the Marquis of Clanricarde and Mr. Wyld.

Apologising for trespassing on your Lordship's valuable time, I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWD. M. COLLIER.

No. 30.

Mr. Hammond to Captain Collier.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 10, 1868.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, requesting to be informed whether there is any chance of a speedy settlement with the Spanish Government in the case of the "Tornado," and I am to state to you in reply that his Lordship regrets he cannot say when the legal proceedings which are in progress are likely to come to an end.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 31.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 14, 1868.

THE legal proceedings in the case of the "Tornado" are attended with so much delay, that Her Majesty's Government think they may fairly ask the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to consider whether John McPherson, who alone of all the crew of tha

vessel is still retained under duresse in Spain, might not be allowed to leave the country and rejoin his family, and apply himself to those industrial pursuits by which he may contribute to their maintenance.

Whatever evidence could be obtained from him, must doubtless have long since been in the possession of the Spanish Government, and that being the case there would seem to be no sufficient reason for his prolonged detention in Spain.

You will therefore express to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the hope of Her Majesty's Government that McPherson may be now set free.

As regards the proceedings against the vessel, you will also express the anxiety of Her Majesty's Government, which they cannot doubt is shared by that of Her Catholic Majesty that they should be brought to a close with as little delay as possible.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 32.

Mr. Thomson to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 17, 1868.)

My Lord, *Santiago, December* 18, 1867.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of October last, on the subject of the steam-vessel "Tornado," I beg leave to state to your Lordship, that during a discussion which occurred in the Chamber of Deputies on the 2nd instant, a steam-vessel was referred to by the Chilean Finance Minister, which although not named, there can be little doubt, was the one in question.

The language employed by the Minister is reported with some variation by the principal Santiago journals; and I have the honour to inclose herewith an extract, accompanied by a translation from each of those journals. That which is marked No. 1, is from the semi-official journal "Republica;" No. 2 is from an opposition paper "La Libertad," the editor of which, at the date referred to, held the office of Principal Clerk in the Office of Foreign Affairs; and No. 3 from the opposition journal "El Ferrocarril."

In No. 1 it is stated, that it would be indiscreet to admit of investigation in the item of upwards of 300,000 dollars, as it may have been invested in some vessel. In No. 2 a similar reticence is observed, no doubt on account of the position then held by the editor in the Foreign Office; but in No. 3 the Minister is reported to have said, that the above item in the account of vessels purchased, is the same as that to which he had alluded on the 24th of December of last year in Congress, as money spent in the purchase of a vessel which then (and now a year later), had not arrived.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Extract from "La Republica" of December 3, 1867.

(Translation.)

AS regards the difference of 300,000 and odd dollars, for expenditure in the acquisition of vessels, the Deputy for Copiapo is not aware that this sum has been employed in the purchase of a vessel, the details of which it is not yet possible to bring forward.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Extract from "La Libertad" of December 3, 1867.

(Translation.)

THE Minister of Finance (reads some numbers), and says that it is not possible to give details of these accounts; that the difference of more than 300,000 dollars, which is found in another item, emanates from an expenditure which cannot be investigated without indiscretion, as it may have been invested in some vessel.

Inclosure 3 in No. 32.

Extract from "El Ferrocarril" of December 3, 1867.

(Translation.)

THE Honourable Deputy adds, that there is a difference between two items. Fortunately the Honourable Deputy calls attention to what I said on the 24th of December, 1866. It is the case that there is a difference; but will any Deputy be so indiscreet as to ask the reason of this difference? Does he not know that this difference results from a sum spent in the purchase of a vessel which has not arrived.

No. 33.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord, *Madrid, February* 19, 1868.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, instructing me to endeavour to obtain the release of John McPherson, and to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the proceedings in the case of the "Tornado" might soon be brought to a close; and I now beg to inclose to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs carrying out your Lordship's instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Arrazola.

M. le Ministre, *Madrid, February* 19, 1868.

IN a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I am instructed to state to your Excellency that the legal proceedings in the case of the "Tornado" are attended with so much delay, that Her Majesty's Government think they may fairly ask that of Her Catholic Majesty to consider whether John McPherson, who alone of all the crew of that vessel is still retained under duresse in Spain, might not be allowed to leave the country and rejoin his family, and apply himself to those industrial pursuits by which he may contribute to their maintenance.

Whatever evidence could be obtained from him must doubtless have long since been in the possession of Her Catholic Majesty's Government, and that being the case there would seem to be no sufficient reason for his prolonged detention in Spain.

I venture, therefore, to express a hope that McPherson may now be set free.

As regards the proceedings against the vessel, I am instructed by Her Majesty's Government to express a hope, which is doubtlessly shared by that of Her Catholic Majesty that they should be brought to a close with a little delay as possible.

I have the honour to recommend these points to your Excellency's favourable consideration, and I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 34.

Lord Stanley to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February* 24, 1868.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th instant, and I have to state to you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Spanish Government with a view to obtain the release of John McPherson, and which at the same time conveyed to them the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the proceedings in the case of the "Tornado" might be speedily terminated.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 35.

Mr. Dunlop, M.P., to Lord Stanley.—(Received February 25.)

My Lord, *House of Commons, February 24, 1868.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Memorial from the Provost and a number of the inhabitants of Greenock on behalf of John McPherson, a native of that town, who was one of the crew of the "Tornado," and who is still detained by the Spanish authorities; and I beg to urge on your Lordship a consideration of his case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. A. STIRLING MURRAY DUNLOP.

Inclosure in No. 35.

Memorial from Inhabitants of the Town of Greenock.

Unto the Honourable Lord Stanley, Her Majesty's Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

The Memorial of the undermentioned inhabitants of the town of Greenock,

Humbly showeth,

THAT John McPherson one of the crew of the British steamship "Tornado," has been kept a prisoner in the Province of Andalusia, Spain for the last seventeen months; during four months he was confined in the Arsenal of Carraca San Fernando, but for the remainder of the time he has been on parole, and he is now the only person of said ship's crew detained.

He has been secretly examined more than once by the Spanish authorities at Cadiz (the first of which examinations lasted for eleven days) and the decision of the Local Court was annulled by the Supreme Court at Madrid. Since that time nothing is known to have been done, and the suspense and anxiety consequent on such indefinite delay have caused great distress to his family, who are residenters of this town.

We, your Petitioners therefore beg your Lordship to look into the present position of this case, and humbly submit that ample time has now been given to the Spanish authorities to establish their claims (if any) against said ship, and it clearly appears that they have failed or neglected to do so. And we your Petitioners further beg that your Lordship will see it to be your duty to require the immediate release of the said John McPherson.

And Your Petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed) JAS. J. GREEVE, *Provost.*
(And 87 others.)

No. 36.

Mr. Hammond to Mr. Dunlop, M.P.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 27, 1868.*

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, inclosing a Memorial from the Provost and certain inhabitants of Greenock, praying that steps might be taken for the liberation of John Macpherson, one of the crew of the "Tornado," who is is still detained under duresse in Spain, and I am to inform you that, in consequence of the delay attending the settlement of the case of the "Tornado" his Lordship had very shortly before the receipt of the Memorial, instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid to represent to the Spanish Government the hardship of MacPherson's prolonged detention in Spain, and to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that he might be allowed to leave the country and rejoin his family.

Sir John Crampton reports having made application accordingly to the Spanish Government on the 19th instant, but at present the answer of that Government has not been received in London.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 37.

Sir J. Crampton to Lord Stanley.—(*Received February* 28.)

My Lord, *Madrid, February* 25, 1868.

WITH reference to the case of John McPherson, respecting which I, in accordance with the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, addressed a representation to the Spanish Government, I have the honour to state that it has been brought under the notice of the Minister of Marine by his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

"TORNADO." No. 1 (1868).

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Seizure of the "Tornado," off Madeira, by the Spanish frigate "Gerona."

(In continuation of Papers presented to Parliament, June 27, 1867.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1868.

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